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Ciller sees hope of new Mideast

CAIRO (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo on Sunday and said a new Middle East could be in the making. But a solution to the Palestinian problem was a prerequisite for stability in the region, she told a joint news conference with Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki. "We feel the Palestinian issue has a priority and needs he making first. Turkey believes the matracture of Gaza and the Ater Securi. We need the reactionant issue has a priority and needs to be tackled first. Turkey believes the restructure of Gaza and the West Bank is a must for the sake of stability and peace in the Middle East," she said. "We feel a new Middle East is a hope and that we should work upon it seriously," she added. She said her 90 minutes of talks with Mr. Mubarak "produced similar views on all topics discussed." Ms. Ciller, who arrived on Sunday morning, visited Israel and Gaza and held talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yirzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (see page 2

Number 5761



to an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights over 16 months, a

newspaper reported here Sunday. The agreement was reached when U.S. President Bill Clinton visited Syria and Israel at the end when 0.3. President Bin Clinton visited Syna and israel at the end of last month, Haaretz said. Mr. Clinton spoke of "progress" but refused to elaborate. "During the Clinton visit, the Syrian position softened on two elements: The timetable for applying an agreement and normalisation as early as the first phase of withdrawal," the daily said. "Assad accepted that the withdrawal take place over one year and four months." The daily said one or two military experts from each side would now join talks between Washington nbassadors Itamar Rabinovich of Israel and Walid Moualiam of Syria, to hammer out security arrangements. Mr. Clinton had agreed to dispatch a U.S. force to the Golan and to ask Congress to take Syria off the list of countries sponsoring "terrorism" so it could enjoy favoured nation trading status. Mr. Rabin is scheduled to visit the United States from Nov. 14, while Mr. Clinton has not ruled out returning to the Middle East before the end of the year.

'Syria accepts Golan pullout over 16 months'

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has agreed

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Lower House endorses peace treaty 55-23

Majali refutes opposition assertions, says Jordan has achieved honourable peace

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

by the united He AMMAN - the on Sun-AMMAN — The Lower first hand the damage House of ramamons on the day endorsed by a two-third day endorsed by a two-third finited by the united and day encoused by a state of majority the Jordanian-majority the Jordanian-majority which will majority the south which will kraeli peace treaty which will A Batter, who was a larger go into affect as law after go into affect as law after Less Augules to the go into anect as an experience from Blacker to the Upper ratification by the Upper House of Parliament and His times in signs House or Farmer Signs Majesty King Hussein signs

reinuditing it. Fifth-five out of 79 deand military putes present voted in favour days of his control of the treaty when the vote training comments of the training for a two-day munity provided in which 52 lawmakprinted district the second ensured the floor to express Hollware the free views on the accord, the premere the which was signed Oct. 26.

The 23 deputies who did and attended a pot vote for the treaty were teach at the residence the 17 Islamic Action Front magui Annual (IAF) deputies, leftist dealso had a putter Bassam Haddadin, Khaleel Haddadin, Mustafeh Mircinaint, with the Name Shneikat, Toujan Faisal and Saleh Shawateh, who is known to be close to the as well as the Fatch movement, and Talal iluici Obeidat, whose stand came

skept Remain Research as a surprise to observers. wife. Name and Same All deputies who did not vote for the treaty indicated their rejection of it in the speeches they gave during the Belgian cardinal: -debate.

Former House Speaker and Prime Minister Taher Al have communion Mast was absent from the BRUNSTIN R - A Se session. Current Speaker Sa'd Hayel Srour did not

> The opposition had de-manded that the House vote on a modification rejecting the treaty, which the government presented to the legislature as

the Foreign Affairs Committee recommendation to endorse it but the legislature decided that such a move would violate the regulations

of the House. Deputy Abdul Kareem Al Dughmi said the regulations stipulate that such a vote be taken when the draft law is presented to the House and before it is referred to the

committee. Deputies first voted on the separate articles of the draft law before endorsing it in its

"Today is a day that will be remembered for democracy. It is the day of the Jordanian parliament," Mr. Srour said after officially announcing the result of the vote.

"This is a victory for shours and democracy which we give as a present to His Majesty King Hussein," said Mr. Srour amidst applause from the galleries.

Leading IAF member Abdullah Al Akaileh told the Jordan Times after the vote the opposition's focus now will be on preparing a thorough programme for resisting normalisation of Jordanian-Israeli ties and the "coming Zionist invasion of our cul-

"I was not surprised by the result. We cannot but accept the decision of the majority in compliance with the democracy in which we live," Dr. Akaileh said, pointing out that the IAF had made clear its position on the treaty and warned against the ramifications for the country. The Upper House of Par-



AMMAN MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1994, JUMADA ALTHANIA 3, 1415

Deputies vote in favour of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty during Sunday's session of Yousef Al 'Allan'

liament will begin its debate of the treaty today, Monday, and it is certain that the 40-member Senate will en-

In an address to the House before the vote was taken, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali rejected opposition claims that the treaty fell short of realising Jordanian rights and has pushed Jordan away from the Arab World and closer to Israel.

The Prime Minister also sought to refute claims that Jordan had abandoned the cause of refugees and displaced persons, stressing that the treaty allows for the return of their full rights.

"We have achieved an honourable and just peace... the peace of dignity and vision," Dr. Majali told law-

Dr. Majali said the purpose of the negotiation pro-cess with Israel was the achievement of a peace that will lead to the regaining of the Kingdom's right. He said the peace treaty

produced that result, adding that it would have been illogical to refuse a solution that the Kingdom entered the peace talks to achieve.

Dr. Majali nrged unified efforts to face the challenges of the future in which he said Jordan is positioned to play a prominent role regionally and internationally.

He said the Kingdom would face the new chalienges with emphasis on building its institutions and strengthening its democracy which urges the minority to respect the decison of the majority.

"Our national unity is too valuable to be jeopardised... and now we need more than ever to consolidate our solidarity and move on the same direction towards the promising future," Dr. Majali said. The Prime Minister said Jordan will no longer remain silent against unjust accusa-

tions levelled against it re-

ity and stability of Jordan... so that it remains the land of freedom, democracy, pluralism and respect for human rights," said Dr. Majali.

"We will protect the secur-

gardiess of their source.

"Why do some people think that just peace will do away with our strength and shatter our abilities and will render us easy for Israel to dominate as if we do not exist and as if we have no weight, said the prime minister in response to remarks that Israel will dominate the region in times of peace.

He said after decades of war, peace will enable the Kingdom to pool its resources and develop society in a way that will enable it to face up to the challenges of the future.

Dr. Majali rejected opposition accusations that the Kingdom had moved alone towards peace with Israel to the detriment of other Arab parties to the negotiations.

"We held on to the (principle) of comprehensive solution. We struggled to maintain Arab solidarity and we realised that the pursued peace will be beneficial to all," said Dr. Majali.

But, he said, the Kingdom has never deceived itself to believe that it was responsible for all Arab rights because the Palestinians were determined to negotiate for their rights and so were the Syrians and the Lebanese. 'Any interference by us" in the Palestinian question was unacceptable to the Palesti-

nians, he said. "We endured by postponing the regaining of (our) rights so that others would have a chance to reach their goals and you know what happened" and Jordan is not

coordination, Dr. Majali told lawmakers. The prime minister said the decision to forge peace was not an easy one and people will need time to adapt to the new situation. But, he said, Jordanians are people who believe in change and this country has witnessed so

many experiences that ren-

to blame for the lack of Arab

dered it able to protect itself in the midst of stronger na-"We were put under siege and remained steadfast and we were boycotted but, (with the leadership of King) Hussein and (the support of the

people) we broke away from the boycott," he said. Responding to criticism made by opposition deputies that the Kingdom had abandoned the causes of refugees and displaced persons, Dr. Majali said these accusations

were groundless. As for the displaced persons, those who left Palestine after the 1967 war, Dr. Majali said their situation will be discussed by the four-party committee that was agreed upon in the declaration of principles between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel.

The committee, which includes the PLO, Israel and Egypt in addition to the Kingdom, "will not be discus-

sing the principle of (the displaced persons') return, but methods that will be agreed upon to organise their return," Dr. Majali said.

The issue of refugees, he said, will be discussed on a bilateral level between Jordan and the PLO and on a trilateral level among the two sides and Israel. He said the issue will continue to be on the agenda of the refugees committee within the multilateral peace talks.

"The government has repeatedly emphasised that it sees in the issue of refugees a basic part of the Arab-Israeli dispute but Jordan cannot shoulder the responsibility of reaching a solution with Israel over this dangerous subject (unless the solution is reached) with the full agreement of the PLO," said Dr.

"We did not abandon the issue (of refugees)," Dr. Ma-jali said, adding that only one quarter of the four million Palestinian refugees live in Jordan while the rest reside in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, the West Bank, Gaza and other parts of the world.

The prime minister rejected opposition deputies' interpretation of the term "settling" which appeared in the accord in reference to the refugees to mean denying them the right of return. He said the deputies con-

fused the term with the Israeli demanded one of "resettling" the refugees which would have meant that they

(Continued on page 3)

Majali reports improved relations with Gulf states

Riyadh accepts Khalifeh as ambassador

Arabia bas accepted Hani Rhalifeb to serve as Jordan's ambassador in Rivadh, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali said in published comments Sunday. Dr. Majali also did not rule out the possibility of visiting one or two Gulf states in the near future.

In an interview with the Sandi newspaper Al Sharq Al Awset, Dr. Majali said Jordan's relations were improving with Saudi Arabia. Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar and that contacts even at international conferences were becoming more cordial with the represeptatives of these countries. "We continually extend

bur hand to our brothers for reconciliation and for a better future for all parties." Dr. Majali said. "I had offered the idea that we transcend vour differences and or reschedule them along the economic way of dealing with things for a period of 10 years with a three-year grace period until we can reach reconciliation and later reopen the differences file again because right now we are going through crucial circumstances requiring an end to differences and a recon-

ciliation, "To this proposal we are receiving response from Saudi Arabia, which has in-formed us that "our nomina-. ... bon of Mr. Khalifeh, former embassador to Canada, was soceptable. This is good

Following is a translation of parts of Dr. Majali's interview with Al Sharq Al Awsat in a question-and-answer

Q: What are your expectations in the wake of the signing of the peace treaty with

. A: "I believe that the stage that follows the signing of the treaty could be more critical than the state after a war because people have great expectations. We have to my to initii the people's asparahous. I believe there cannot pe less and between beace is long as the average per spita income in Jordan conissues to stand around \$1,200

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi a year while it is tens of times this figure in the neighbouring countries. Therefore there is need for changes in the economic sphere, changes that should be felt by the people. People's standard of living should be raised to acceptable norms. Of course this cannot be realised, through giving away money to the people but through investment projects in the country. It is true that we have unemployment but that it is "white-collar unemploy-

> ment.' "If we compare the number of the unemployed with the guest workers we would find that we would still be in need of non-Jordanians even if the Jordanian jobseekers had taken up the available occupations. We also have

"The question is how can we deal with these two problems — unemployment and poverty. I believe that this cannot be handled by giving jobs in government offices to all the unemployed as the offices are already congested. The solution comes with investments, but capital is coward and capital holders can only be ready to invest in a climate of peace and stability. Now, after signing the treaty, our country will even enjoy more stability, motivating investors from Jordan and

other countries. "Investment is bound to create new jobs that would curtail poverty and unemployment and raise the standard of living.
"We have plans for diffe-

rent projects and we have submitted them to the Casablanca conference to seek help from all the friendly nations.
"We are also seeking to rid the country of its debt burden which has been shouldered as a result of bearing responsibilities for the region's stability. It was not Jordan's fault that such indebtedness has been accumulated. It came about as a result of the responsibilities on this country that have been larger than it could bear. So it turned to borrowing to build the Kingdom's infrastructure and to stand

along the defence lines.

"Once Jordan gets rid of these issues, more economic growth will be achieved. We are ready and we have made plans for thousands of million dollars worth of projects and we have been promised assistance, especially from the United States.

"The U.S. commitment came from President Bill Clinton in his address to the Jordanian Parliament when he pledged that the U.S. will write off Jordan's debts to the United States and to help Jordan acquire material

assistance for its projects. O: What about Jordanian opposition to the peace trea-

A: "If we have no opposition we must seek to create one. We want to see an opposition that can show the government the other side of the equation in a constructive manner and not an opposition oriented towards des-

But regrettably there exists a part of the opposition that resorts to the use of such improper terms as atheism

and treason. "This government in contrast, has not resorted to similar terms. We also heard claims that the government does not tolerate any opposition in the media but this is untrue. All parties and the opposition issue their newspapers and have their columnists and analysts who exercise their free expression all the time without any opposition on the part of the government. In the official media we do not allow harsh terms to be used because it is a media for all people. As a government we are not a party working against the

opposition parties.
"We hope the political parties will be strengthened and will have their own program-mes and enter Parliament." Q:"What about Jordan's views regarding Jerusalem?

A: "There is no going back on our position. Our relationship with Jerusalem and the holy places are fun-damental. We cannot abardon them for the unknown. Our responsibilities before and after 1967 have con-



Abdul Salam Majali timed untouched.

"We will continue to shoulder these responsibilities until our Palestinian brothers can take them over in the final solution and we will offer them these responsibilities on a golden platter.

Q:What about Jordan's relations with Syria and Leba-

A:"We believe in a comprehensive solution for the Middle East conflict. We paused more than once in our process of negotiations with israel to watch and see prog-ress on the other tracks. We came under pressure and we sought coordination but the others failed to coordinate their position with us. This does not mean that we should

stop at a standstill. Now, having regained our rights, we will be in a better position to help others attain theirs. We have no conflict with Syria and Lebanon, but we exert different degrees of efforts."

Q: What is your comment on His Majesty King Hussein's recent criticism of the local press and the local col-

A: "We have a press and publication law we we have a code of honour among the journalists. They realise the red line which they should not cross as they could be harming national interests.

However, I regret to say that some journalists have acted in violation of these rules without regard to the damage to the country. Some criticise the ministers and say that corruption exists in Jordan. This is normally read abroad and is bound to have adverse consequences on the

Kingdom.

"We want the journalists to work towards upholding in an interview with the national interests. French monthly Le Monde (Continued on page 3) Diplomatique. Asked why

Northern crossing opens Thursday By P.V.Vivekanand

AMMAN — A crossing between Jordan and Israel in the north will be opened on Thursday and His Majesty King Hussein plans to hold talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin after the opening ceremony, offi-

cials said Sunday. According to unconfirmed reports, the King might also pay a visit to Israel shortly after the opening of the crossing, the second between the Kingdom and the Jewish state which have signed a peace treaty ending a 46-year

state of war. Officials have said that King Hussein would not visit Israel until Parliament rati-

fies the treaty. The first crossing between Jordan and Israel was opened near Aqaba and Eilat on Aug. 8, shortly after Jordan and Israel signed the Washington Declaration. which paved the way for the peace treaty that the two countries concluded on Oct. 26. The opening is limited to

-Israeli peace treaty is formalised into law.

The Washington Declaration called for two crossings, but the second was delayed because of technical reasons mostly on the Israeli side which had to be cleared of landmines — a legacy of the 1948 and 1967 war. The bridge was damaged in

both wars. Extensive repairs have been carried out at the site and facilities to accommodate immigration, customs and health formalities related to cross-border travel have also been built. As the mid-October dead-

line for opening the crossing was not met, officials said, it was decided that the crossing would be opened after the Jordanian Parliament had ratified the peace treaty and the King signed into law.

was planning a visit to Jeru-

salem in his capacity as the

A possible visit by the King to Israel also awaited the formalisation of the treaty, according to the officials. There was no immediate word on whether the King

The opening of the north-

ern crossing near the Sheikh Hussein Bridge, which is expected to be named Green Valley Bridge or Peace Bridge, by Transport Minister Samir Kawar and his Israeli counterpart Yisrael Kasser, will also signal the launch of travel by Israelis and Jordanians to each other's countries. Permission to travel will have to be obtained through travel agents in both countries pending the establishment of diplomatic relations and

man and Tel Aviv. Travel agents said they were told that the King Hussein Bridge across the River Jordan, the only crossing between Jordan and the occupied West Bank, will be available only for those who hold residence permits for the West Bank and Gaza

opening of embassies in Am-

The reason behind such a move, they said, appeared to be Jordan's respect for the West Bank as Palestinian

third country nationals until custodian of the Islamic holy territory which should not be Kingdom and Israel. No official was immediately available to confirm plans for the use of the King Hussein

> Jordan is planning to reconstruct the Sheikh Hussein bridge and to widen it to accommodate four-lane traffic and upgrade an access road that links the bridge to the main Jordan Valley highway between North and South Shuneh. The project is estimated to cost about \$6 million and expected to be completed in 24 months.

Also planned is a highway to link the bridge with the Iraqi border at Ruweished. This road will run from Ruweished through Safawi, Mafraq and Irbid to meet the main Jordan Valley highway and onto the bridge. This medium-priority project, estimated to cost around \$150 million, is expected to offer an outlet to the Israeli port of Haifa for other countries in the Arabian Peninsula, as peace and stability take hold in the region.

Israel rejects Iraq's conciliatory comment

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on Sunday that Israel's problems with Iraq were with President Saddam Hussein, not the Iraqi

He was commenting on a statement by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz that Baghdad had no problems with the Jewish state and was no longer at war with

Asked by Israel Radio to respond, Mr. Peres said: "Our enemy is not Iraq, not as a state and not as a people. We have a real probem with Saddam Hussein, who is a man who cannot be trusted - not his words, not his promises, and not his positions," Mr. Peres said.

"There are no negotiations between Iraq and Israel."

... direct or indirect negotiations are not being conducted and will not be conducted Mr. Aziz made his remarks

Baghdad had kept silent about the Middle East peace process, Mr. Aziz replied: "We believe that we do not have to meddle in an issue to which we have not been associated."

"We have no bilateral conflict with Israel," he said in the brief interview with writer Eric Rouleau, a former French ambassador to Libya. "Since our Arab brothers

disputes with Israel through negotiation, Iraq no longer regards itself as a 'confrontation state'," Mr. Aziz said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin told reporters that Israel was ready to open talks with Baghdad if it applied U.N. Security Council

have decided to settle their

resolutions. Israel's Police Minister Moshe Shahal and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer, both born in Iraq, reportedly established secret contact with Iraqi officials. during the summer, but broke them off after U.S.

Israel, Oman to launch relations'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel and the Sultanate of Oman will shortly announce the opening of interest sec-tions, the first step towards full diplomatic relations, officials said Sunday.

Deputy Foreign Minister

Yossi Beilin flies to Muscat

on Monday, said the officials who refused to be named. The announcement could come as early as Monday. Oman will thus be the first Arab state in the Gulf to

establish ties with the Jewish state. The foreign ministry re-fused to confirm the report. Morocco has agreed to open a liaison bureau in Tel Aviv, which is a step higher on the diplomatic scale, while

Israel has a similar bureau in

Rabat. Tunisia has also agreed to open an interest section in the Belgian embassy in Tel

Aviv. The sultanate was the sole Arab country which did not sever relations with Egypt in

peace treaty with Israel. Israel is also looking to open relations with Bahrain and Qatar in the near future

following the signing of the September 1993 autonomy

agreement with the Palesti-

mans and the Oct. 26 peace treaty with Jordan. In Muscat, a senior Omani official Sunday confirmed that Mr. Beilin would visit Oman Monday.

Mr. Beilin will meet Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ben Alawi Abdullah, the official said, without disclosing the purpose of the visit. It will be Mr. Beilin's

second visit to Oman. On an unprecedented trip in April he led an Israeli delegation to a session of multilateral Middle East negotiations on water resources. On Thursday Omani Trade

Minister Maqbul Ben Sultan denied Israeli reports that

(Continued on page 3)

Fergie offered role on U.S. TV -- papers

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Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The International Finance Corporation (IFC), a body affiliated with World Bank, stands ready to extend financing to industrial and infrastructure projects in Jordan with private sector participation, an IFC delegation has told Jordanian businessmen and industrialists.

The promise, coupled with a detailed explanation of how the IFC works and the parameters that guide its activities around the world, was made during a meeting here Saturday between the visiting IFC delegation and a group of Jordanian businessmen.

During the meeting, held at the Amman Chamber of Industry, IFC delegates Jamaluddin Kassum, vice president of operations, Andre Hobaguimian, director of the Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa bureau, Sami Haddad, country manager, and Michael Dickson, the Cairo representative of the International Finance Corporation of America, exchanged views with Jordanian businessmen on economic prospects for Jordan in a state of peace and

stability in the region. The IFC delegation's visit comes in the wake of the breakthrough in the Jordanian-Israeli track of peace talks that has cleared the way for international financial bodies taking a new interest in the region after years of

Despite the political instability and the absence of peace in the region, the IFC has financed several projects in Jordan, and the corporation now stood much more willing to consider multi-million projects in the private sector. Saturday's meeting

The IFC stands ready to study financing for projects in the industrial sector, infrastructure projects with private sector participation and the tourism sector, the delegates

The IFC complements the work of commercial banks rather than competing with them, they explained. The outstanding advantage in IFC financing for any project is the additional trust and confidence instilled by the very fact that the international organisation is financing it.

The underlying factor here is the close scrutiny that the IFC conducts on any projects before committing itself to financing. This would mean establishing the commercial feasibility and soundness of the project, which in turn should be reassuring to investors as well as other financing

Welcoming the delegation, Chamber of Industry President Khaldoun Abu Hassan said he had met them on the fringes of the International Monetary Fund/World Bank meeting held in Madrid last

"After exchanging some views about economic pros-

enterprise, they expressed an immediate desire to visit Jordan to meet the forefront businessmen, widely responsible for shaping the eco-

ising future," said Mr. Abu Hassan. Mr. Abu Hassan briefly highlighted the economic approach of Jordan.

nomy of Jordan and its prom-

Through hard work and dedication, the country has developed "a promising framework for investment, especially in industry, which is now responsible for 20 per cent of the gross domestic product and 90 per cent of exports," Mr. Abu Hassan

Mr. Abu Hassan also noted that Jordan was speedily implementing reforms towards a free market-oriented economy with "the private sector in the lead."

"Challenges ahead are rife and acute," he said. "We can depend on our vigilant businessmen to face them steadfastly and gainfully.

"As you become more acquainted with them, the more you will discern their depth of determination... wide vision and future hopes and perspectives ...," he told the IFC

It was not immediately known whether the IFC was considering any immediate projects for financing in Jordan. But a businessman who attended Saturday's meeting said discussions were under way on several prosposals but it was too early to predict the outcome of the negotiations.

iraq deployed more than 64,000 troops, including elite Ms. Ciller and Mr. Rabin

cost of rushing U.S. and allied air, sea and land forces to the Gulf at between \$500 million and \$1 billion.

since the crisis has abated, with Iraq pulling back the troops, the kingdom did not foresee any continuous military buildup necessitating

Cairo defends aid effort in flood-hit areas; doctors fear epidemics thing, they took clothing, they took food, tents, blank-

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Egyptian government on Sunday defended its performance in helping the survivors of a fire and floods, as doctors warned of the risk of epidemics.

Prime Minister Atef Sedki, who said more than 500 people died in the disasters although an AFP toli put the figure at nearly 600, argued his government had done all

it could to help survivors. "The problem in Dronka is limited because they are already dead, limited in complaining, I mean. Who will complain? A dead man?" Dr. Sedki asked journalists.

Hundreds of Dronka residents died when flood waters carrying burning oil from a fuel depot swept through Assiut province village 400 kilometres south of Cairo last

Dr. Sedki said 302 people died in Dronka, while an AFP toll based on reports by police, hospital and rescue

workers put the figure at 506. Survivors of the fire lashed out at the government saying they had received no com-pensation and few blankets, and accused local authorities of failing to take safety mea-

sures at the depot. Rescue workers have ended their search for bodies in Dronka, as residents buried their dead in mass graves, and locals from surrounding towns and villages rushed to give food, shelter and money

to help them recover. A total of 588 people were listed dead after police reported that seven more died in further flooding overnight Saturday in the northern Nile Delta and the southern city of

The emirate may choose to

expected to bear any addi-

tional expenses, the sources

have a multinational fund

cover the cost, in which case

oil-consuming states must

share the burden, the sources

The Saudis contend that if

high-profile military pre-

sence is maintained by the

United States, backed by Bri-

tain and other allies, it would

be to protect the region's oil,

two-third of the world's re-

Canada, Japan, Germany

and Italy, who have a direct

stake in guaranteeing region-

al security, should share in

paying the costs, according to Saudi thinking. U.S. President Bill Clinton

discussed the issue with King

Industrialised states like

Another alternative was to

toll at "maybe a little more

than 500." Dr. Sedki said the government was still studying damage to homes, agriculture and livestock, but estimated it could surpass \$500 million.

The government would be-gin "immediately" to rebuild homes that would be completed within "three to four months," but for now the homeless will have to stay in tent camps set up by the military, he said. "What else can we do?"

Dr. Sedki asked. The tents are "equipped

with everything they need," Dr. Sedki said, adding that heating would be introduced to the tents "in a few hours" so the victims can face the

"They have not the right to complain. They took every-

Floods damage finest sites in Valley of the Kings

LUXOR (AFP) - Several ancient sites damaged by the torrential rain over Egypt las week are among the fines and most important pharaonic tombs in the Valley of the Kings in the southen province of Luxor. Floodwater seeped in to

the temple of Sety I, the precincts of the Deir Al Bahari temple, and the tomb of Ramose. Tutankhamm Tuthmose III, Ramesses III and Monuemhat, said Mahmoud Nureddin, head of the Organisation of Egyptias Antiquities.

Mr. Nureddin said 150 workers were busy trying to pump water out of the temple of Sety I, which was also damaged by torrential rain last month.

Heavy rains hit southern Egypt on Wednesday, killing more than 550 people, most of them when water carrying burning oil swept through the village of Dronka north of Luxor.

Water also thundered down the mountains above the Valley of the Kings on the west side of the Nile 700 kilometres south of Cairo, crashing into thousand-yearold tombs which figure among Egypt's top tourist attractions.

Sety I, who ruled from 1312 to 1289 B.C., was the father of Ramessess II. His tomb is the largest and most elaborate in the Valley of the Kings, with all the colours of the wall murals intact,

vulnerable to floods.

Amenhotep III (1408-1372 B.C.), then served his son Amenhotep IV (1372-1354 B.C., better known as Akhenaten). His tomb is decorated with works from the time of Amenbotep III when Egyptian art was at its height.

The tomb walls illustrate in colour and detail Ramose's funeral procession, depicting weeping female mourners, offering scenes and catafalues bearing mummified bodies.

into the tomb of Tutankli mun (1354-1345 B.C.), which was discovered in 1922 by Howard Carter with all the funeral treasures intact. The treasure is now in Cairo Museum but the boy-king's

mummy remains in the tomb. The tomb of Tuthmose III (1505-1450 B.C.) is one of the most important and deepest sites at 30 metres in

Its walls are illustrated with scenes from the books of Hades, describing the soul's journey through the night.

(1198-1166) B.C.), founder of the 20th dynasty, was also termed the harper's tomb by early scholars. It is only nine to 10 metres below the ground.

screens to give the impression

Bahari is the funeral temple of Hatshepsut (1505-1484 B.C.), the only woman ***** have reigned as pharaoh. Its name comes from a Christian monastery later set up within

Turkey, Israel plan free trade deal TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Turkish Prime Minister Tan-

country would sign a free trade agreement with Israel by the end of the year. 'We made progress and we feel that a free trade agreement will come about between Israel and Turkey by the end of the month or hopefully by the end of the year," she told a joint news

su Ciller said on Saturday her

Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Ms. Ciller, on an official visit to Israel, suggested the whole Middle East should eventually become a free market.

conference with Israeli Prime

Mr. Rabin said the leaders had signed a cooperation agreement to fight drug smuggling between the two countries.

Earlier on Saturday, a row almost erupted when Ms. Cil-

Orient House, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headquarters in East Jerusalem where Palestinians often host foreign dignitaries.

Palestinians angered Israeli security men accompanying Ms. Ciller by barring them from entering the building. The Israelis said they would enter by force if members of the press were allowed in.

The tension was defused when neither the security men nor the journalists were let inside.

In a meeting with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Gaza on Saturday, Ms. Ciller urkey would held finance Palestinian projects including construction of an airport and a harbour in

She was the first head of government to visit the Palestinian self-rule areas. Mr. Rabin and Ms. Ciller also said Saturday they would

spoke during the opening of a regional business conference that drew some 1,000 participants, including representatives from Israel, Turkey, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan.

"We, the people, the countries of the region, can make it what it used to be during Biblical times, the cradle of civilisation," Mr. Rabin told the conference. Ms. Ciller, the first Turkish

prime minister to visit Israel. said the countries of the Middle East "must get used to the idea that spending money on infrastructure is worth than on arms.'

Ms. Ciller on Saturday also toured the Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques in Jerusalem's walled Old City and met with Muslim religious leaders. Wearing a head scarf in line with Muslim tradition, Ms. Ciller said

ler met leading Palestinian also said Saturday they figure Faisal Al Husseini at not bow to terrorism. noon prayers at Al Aqsa. Indonesian scholar urges Israel ties

JAKARTA (AFP) - Prominent Muslim scholar Abdurrachman Wahid said Sunday that it was now time for Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim nation, to consider diplomatic ties with Israel.

'These diplomatic relations are necessary to anticipate the future, following the growing improvement in the relations between Arab countries and Israel," Mr. Wahid said by telephone. Mr. Wahid, who also heads

the influential Indonesian Islamic scholars' organisation Nahdlatul Ulama (NU), said that the need for bilateral ties was even more pressing. given Indonesia's current position as head of the 111nation Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Indonesia's frosty approach to Israel, he said, had been conditioned by past

enmity between Arab states and Israel, and pointed to recent accords between Israel and Egypt, the Palestinian state and Jordan as good reason for a softening of In-

donesia's stance. Despite the absence of relations, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin made a brief secret visit to Indonesia in October 1993 to meet NAM Chairman and Indonesian President Suharto to brief him on developments in the Middle East peace pro-

Mr. Wahid has recently drawn vocal criticism for visiting Israel last month at the invitation of the Harry S. Truman Institute, a thinktank at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Mr. Wahid was part of a group of five, that included a senior researcher at the reli-

Chirzin,

nisation's knowledge and he would therefore be reprimanded.

had not been informed.

Kuwait is believed to beshouldering about 40 per cent of the estimated \$600

Kuwait to sell intercepted Iraqi fuel

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - Kuwait has decided to sell a

shipment of Iraqi fuel seized last month and to transfer the

proceeds to the U.N. Gulf war compensation fund, a

foreign ministry spokesman said Sunday. The U.S. Navy in

the northern Gulf intercepted the Honduran-flagged tank-

er Mahroussa on Oct. 21 and diverted it to Kuwait for

violating the U.N. embargo on Iraq. The spokesman told

the state-run news agency KUNA that in keeping with U.S.

Security Council resolutions, the Kuwaiti Oil Ministry

would sell the fuel and pay the proceeds into the U.N. fund. The fund was set up to compensate victims of the August 1990-February 1991 Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. Its

main resources are Iraqi assets frozen abroad. Captain

Izzat Abdul Hadi Khafida told a press conference last month that his tanker loaded 3,162 tonnes of diesel fuel

from October 16 to 19 in the Iraqi port of Al Zubeir. The

Mahroussa was intercepted under the U.N. embargo in

Four Muslim extremists arrested in Istanbul

ISTANBUL (AFP) - Turkish police have arrested four

Islamic extremists who allegedly organised a series of

bombings and tried to murder a Turkish writer who has

spoken out in favour of secularism, police said Sunday.

They said the militants admitted being responsible for 27 bomb attacks in Istanbul between May and October,

including explosions on May 19 in two Catholic churches.

The militants who are suspected members of the extremist

Islamic Front of Combattants of the Great Orient (IBDA-

C) also allegedly placed a bomb on May 5 in a bookstore

where Turkish writer Toktamis Ates was to autograph his

books. The bomb failed to go off because of faulty wiring.

Police said explosives were seized at the militants' hiding

Egyptian science minister visits Israel

force since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

place during the arrests.

RIYADH (AP) - Despite further payments. its tight financial position, Saudi Arabia has paid more than half the \$600 million cost of last month's U.S.-led military deployment to face have a continued allied militdown Iraq, Arab diplomats ary presence on a regular said Sunday. basis, in which case it was

Saudis pay

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Riyadh's contribution was \$330 million and has already been turned over to Washington as a one-time payment. The disclosures by the

sources, who are close to the Saudi government, were the first on the financial aspects of last month's crisis. That was triggered when

Republican Guard divisions, north of the Kuwaiti border. Earlier estimates put the

The diplomats said that

Fand during his six-country whistlestop tour of the Middle East last month.

Also discussed at the meeting at Hafr Al Batin was the J.S. administration's wish to preposition tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery and other equipment for a brigade-size unit of around 5,000 men and women in Saudi Arabia for such contingencies.

Kuwait and Qatar have already agreed to allow similar prepositioning.

The New York Times quoted a U.S. defence official as saying that the Saudis gave a reply that was taken to mean "no."

But the Arab diplomats said King Fahd told Mr. Clinton that he welcomed U.S. military equipment provided it was sold to the Saudi armed forces and that U.S. military personnel trained his forces.

The kingdom already hosts U.S. composite wing of fighters, fighter-bombers and bombers as well as British and French squadrons at bases in Riyadh and

NEWS IN BRIEF

These warplanes have been deployed there since August 1992 to monitor the "no-fly zone" imposed then south of the 32nd Parallel in Iraq to protect Shiite Muslim rebels. Allied air strength in Saudi Arabia was reinforced during last month's crisis.

ets," Dr. Sedki said after a

meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak

and Turkish Prime Minister

Dr. Sedki lamented the

fact that the government

could not shelter people im-

mediately in apartments as

they did in when the 1992

earthquake shook mainly

(apartments) in this region,"

Dr. Sedki said, referring to

Meanwhile, Mahmoud

Abdul Hamid, a doctor at

Dar Al Salam hospital in

southern Sohag province, warned of the "spread of

epidemics because of the

bodies of animals drowned in

"We don't have them

Tansu Ciller.

the south.

the floods."

for Gulf operation

Saudi Arabia bore some \$60 billion of the cost of Operation Desert Storm four years ago, when King Fahd invited the U.S.-led coalition of 33 nations to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait and protect the kingdom.

The Gulf war costs, coupled with a slump in oil prices, has forced Saudi Arabia to slash government spending by 20 per cent this year, a measure expected to be extended through next year as well.

The kingdom's debt, mostfrom the local market, is lose to \$80 billion.

Washington agreed earlier this year to a Saudi request to reschedule payment for military equipment worth \$9.2 bil-lion over five years instead of

visit to boost cooperation between the two neighbours,

officials said. Met at Ben Gurion airport by her Israeli

counterpart Shulamit Aloni. Ms. Gouda was to tour

high-tech companies and scientific research institutes.

Afghan commander, two sons assassinated

PESHAWAR (AFP) — An Afghan commander and governing council member in Afghanistan's eastern Ning-

arhar province has been killed in an ambush together with

his tow sons, local newspapers and Afghan sources said

Sunday. Mohammad Arif and his sons were shot dead

Saturday near the provincial capital of Jalalabad. The

reports linked the attack to tribal rivalry. Arif belonged to

Sayed Ahmad Gailiani's moderate National Islamic Front

of Afghanistan. He was head of Ningarhar's education

department and an important member of the province's

governing council, made up of representatives from various

Afghan factions. Ningarhar, near the Pakistan border, has

been relatively peaceful amid continued fighting in Kabul

between rival parties since the fall of the communists in

4 dead, dozens poisoned by mussels in Morocco

RABAT (AFP) - Four people have died and dozens been

poisoned after eating contaminated mussels in Casablanca,

a newspaper report said Sunday. L'Opinion newspaper said

the mussels, sold by itinerant peddiars, had been harvested

from polluted beaches. The deaths and non-fatal poison-

ings had been reported over the last few days. The

newspaper added that Casablanca authorities moved Satur-

day to seize all mussels originating from Walidia beach

south of the city: The seizures took sellers by surprise.

notably in the central market which had just opened for

business. L'Opinion published a Health Ministry statement

warning the public not to eat mussels from areas not cleared by public health officials while the toxins were

being analysed. "The clinical symptoms presented by the

patients strongly suggests a toxin that is produced by a

species of marine algae often encoutnered in the Atlantic

The tomb has been closed

for restoration work since the beginning of 1992 after slats crumbled from the ceiling. The depth of the site makes it Ramose was vizier of

Floodwater also seeped

the Valley of the Kings.

The tomb of Ramesses III

Vivid engraved and painted scenes on tomb walls have been recently restored and protected by glass

they were painted yesterday.

The temple of Deir Al the monument.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

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CHURCHES

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Tel. 81 1295

Church of Na The Evangelic

WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Depart-ment of Meteorology. The effect of the depression will persist with temperatures con-tinuing to drop slightly and winds becoming westerly moderate. In Aqaba, skies will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance of scattered showers. Winds will be southerly active and seas rough Min./Max. temp.

gious affairs ministry, Johan Effendi, and a former chairman of the Muhammadiyah Muslim movement, Habib

The group attended the peace accord signing between Jordan and Israel.

Mr. Muhammadiyah issued a statement Saturday saying that its former chairman's participation in the trip was taken without the orga-

The foreign ministry has also expressed regret over the visit, complaining that it too

Muslim groups in the country have also roundly condemned four Indonesian journalists for visiting Israel in February, at Tel Aviv's in-

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Egyptian Science Minister Venice Kamel Gouda arrived in Israel on Sunday for a three-day

Jordan Valley Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 16, Aqaba 28 Humidity readings: Amman 69 per cent, readings: Amman 6 Aqabs 40 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:
Dr. Ghaleb Zawaideh
Dr. Yousef Nasr
Dr. Fakher Belbeisi
Dr. Khaldoun Astour
Furse pharmacy Ferdows pharmacy
AI Asema pharmacy
Nairoukh pharmacy
AI Salam pharmacy
Yacoub pharmacy
Yacoub pharmacy 778336 Najib pharmacy mad Hilu 279773 Alguds pharmary Dr. Walid Halasch 982799 Khalifeh pharmacy 985417 **EMERGENCIES**

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Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 617101

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630021

Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints 61176

Water and Sewerage

Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality 787111 787111 .. 010230 Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101 623101 . 773111

Jordan Electricity Authority

Company 636381 RJ Flight Information ... 08-53200 Guera Alia Juli Aircon 38-53200

HOSPITALS

Ammar: Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6 Akilch Maternity, J. Ann. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 64244172
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 848545
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26
Al-my, Marka 891611/15 ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital

Ibn Sina Hospital Al Hikma Modern Hospital

Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555 Greak Catholic Hospital (02)27:275 Ibn Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100

AQABA: Princess Hays Hospital (03)314111

(09)900560 (09)986732 (09)990990

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

Ocean," the statement added.

AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)33200-5, where it should always be verified. ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Sanaa (RJ) Dubai (RJ) Jeddah (RJ) Riyadh (RJ)

99:55 Beirut (RI) 16:50 Cairo (RI) 17:90 New York, Amsterdam (RI)

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminai 1)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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..... Frankfurt (RJ)

Cairo (RJ)

Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

Dhahran (RJ)

Abu Dhahi (RJ)

Damascus (RJ)

Dubai, Muscat (RJ) 20:30 Other Flights (Terminal 2) Istanbul (TK) Beinn (ME) Bahrain, Abr Dhabi, Muscat (GF) Dubai (EK)
Amsterdam (KL)

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN aman 8:00 every Monday 5:00 p.m. every Monday 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

5:00 p.m. every Sunday MARKET PRICES

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Oriental Research

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who is heading her organisa

tion's delegation to the con-

ference, believes "com-

plementary approaches are likely to be the most effec-

form for action which in-cludes CEDAW as well as an

adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the 1990 World

Summit for Children Goals,"

Mrs. Vittachi told the Jordan

"very important if the

"We are hoping for a plat-

Participants to the Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women Sunday attend the

first day of deliberations in Amman at the Philadelphia

"There remains the prob-

lem about making this a com-

prehensive approach - we

speaking to the converted.

we must draw the men and all

of society into this question,

the development of women is

an improvement for all of

society not just one sector.

to be reached and convinced

of the policies being adv-

anced at these meetings -

otherwise "plans for imple-

mentation will be nothing but

yet another document of con-

to introduce new concepts

about societal changes," Mrs.

The decision makers need

"Results can be

tremendous once there is a

political commitment and a

national policy which imple-

Concentrated developmen-

tal efforts focusing on the girl child in particular will place

gender equality policies into

the mainstream development

process of societies, said the

UNICEF director. Scientific

information which allows for

gender analysis will provide

When people know -

there is awareness and know-

women last week, some basic

Adnan Sharif paints simple

for "advocacy tools."

ments the political will."

Floods damage finest site.

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IRBID (J.T.) — Civil Defence Department (CDD) teams Sunday continued their search for persons reported missing since flashfloods hit missing since mashinous in the country last week causing the death of 21 people.

The search parties are consisted in the Ramtha region centrated in the Ramtha region near the northern city of CDD divers searched lakes

created in by the recent floods for two missing people, but found no one so far, according to a department official. He said teams also pumped flood waters out from homes. and helped citizens remove their furniture in an effort to " salvage their belongings.

While relief and clean-up operations were continuing Sunday in Karak, Ma'an, Ramtha and other affected areas, CDD Director General Afif Al Ghoul said his office was preparing for expected emergencies and was dispatching road clearing and other equipment to different

In a statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, General Ghoul cautioned the public to move away from low lying areas, store suffi-cient fuel and light equipment, such as spades for earth and snow removal, and keep canals, culverts and roof gutters clear.

He said that during heavy storms, citizens are advised to remain indoors and avoid the banks of streams and low

lying areas.
Meanwhile the Department of Meteorology said Sunday it expects more rain and thunderstorms in different parts of the country Monday, tapering off Tues-

A department official told the Jordan Times that the Kingdom was affected by a depression centred over Syria accompanied by several cold fronts which caused overcast skies and sporadic rains and

northwesterly winds.
The official said that while temperatures in Amman Sun-day rose to 16°C, they are expected to reach no more than 14 C Monday during the day and drop to nine or 10°C

Yemeni team looks at Jordanian benefit plan

CDD continues search

for missing flood victims

AMMAN (Petra) — Finance Minister Sami Gammon Sunas day met with a visiting deby legation from the Yemeni Ministry of Social Affairs and # discussed Jordan's civil and military retirement and pension systems and possible Yemeni-Jordanian coopera-

tion in these areas. Mohammad Batni, the Yemeni minister of social affairs and head of the delegation, said his country was interested in benefitting from Jordan's experience is social-

The Yemeni delegation visited the Princess Rahma Community College for SoFaisal Gharaibeh, and his assistants to learn about the institution's programmes and

training courses. The minister said that his team would discuss ways to benefit from the college programme for possible application in Yemen with the help

of Jordanian experts. The college graduates qualified personnel in social affairs, and the minister expressed hope that Yemeni students would be sent to the college to obtain necessary

uaining. Dr. Gharaibeh said that the college was ready to offer help and accept Yemeni

cial Service and met its dean, House adopts peace treaty 55-23

(Continued from page I)

are denied this right. "I officially say here that setting, in our understanding. means maintaining the right

of return," said the prime Saying that some opposition deputies interpreted some terms in the peace treaty to serve their purposes and strengthen their arguments against the accord, Dr. Ma-" jali said the government rejocts these interpretations and only recognises the ones used by the Foreign Affairs

De Committee so that Israel will not be able to interpret the terms the way the opposition deputies understood them. The prime minister also h brushed aside opposition - dains that the treaty will put the Kingdom in an alliance with the Jewish state, saying the only action the security arrangement the two coun-

intries have reached prohibit is entering military coalitions fior declaring or posing the Ethreat of war against each è Stressing that the peace the *Kingdom has reached does not lead to the abandonment of the nation's rights in Jeruisalem or give up other rights, Dr. Majali said that King ellussein, with his "experi-

sence, ... faith ... and vision," followed every step of the negotiations which led to the The Foreign Affairs Committee, headed by Deputy Abdul Karim Al Kabariti, had recommended that the igovernment do all it can to reacquire lands in the areas of Baquorah and Ghumer which are owned by Israelis

who will continue to utilise while to utilise to utilise of the seriod of . It also recommended that the government pursue a just end to the plight of refugees m all international fora and take measures to protect the

Rational economy and collect

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information on areas owned by Jordanians in Israel ahead of working out arrangement

to regain them. Dr. Majali took the floor after 25 deputies addressed the House to express support

or opposition to the treaty. Opposition deputies echoed remarks made by their colleagues Saturday in which they blasted the treaty for allegedly failing to produce comprehensive peace

and realising all Jordanian Islamist deputies attacked the treaty because, they said, it conflicts with Islamic faith which "prohibits the recognition of Israel in Palestinian land" and because the treaty will allow for "Zionist domination" of Arab economies and culture. They also charged that the treaty isolates Jordan from the Arab

World and constitutes a violation of Arab solidarity. Those deputies also criticised the government for what they termed as its encroachment on their democratic rights to express their views. Other lawmakers in favour of the treaty, however, sought to refute these claims, saying the treaty leads to the recovery of all Jordanian rights and that Jordan is

not to be blamed for the disarrary in Arab relations. They said Jordan has aiways worked towards Arab

solidarity. They said Jordan was not responsible for the characterisation of the Palestinian issues as a strictly Palestinian concern because it was the Arab summit of 1974 that chose the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They said many Arabs applauded when the decision was taken as if the Jordanian connection to the Palestinian issue" was a nightmare that needed to be ended," (Excerpts from deputies' speeches appear on

governments, NGOs to eliminate gender inequalities By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As hundreds of women converged on Amman to discuss the future of women in the Arab World at the Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing next year, governmental officials and United Nations agencies in-augurated the five-day meeting entitled "Peace for the Advancement of Arab

Organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and convened under the Patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal, in cooperation with the League of Arab States and the Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research, the meeting intends to mobilise women and men at both the policy making and the grass roots levels to eliminate gender in-

equalities in the Arab World. The main issues at hand are the elimination of inequality in education, an insurance to access to health care, the right to employment and economic participation, an end to inequality in power sharing and decision making, an improvement of images of women in the mass media, promoting women's human rights and an elimination of violence against women.

The conference's aim is to

(Continued from page 1)

promised Jordan material

and military assistance. Has

the army received any milit-

A: "I believe that military

aid is on its way. But the

material assistance will take

the form of writing off the

Q: Did you discuss with

A: We did not do that yet,

but after the treaty has been ratified by Parliament in the King this will hopefully

Q: Do you believe that

peace between Jordan and

Israel will be a genuine one?

us. We have been talking about peace since the 1920

under the late King Abdul-

"If a miracle happens and

they decide to halt terrorist

activities, recognise the state

of Israel, and cease aspiring

to harm Jews only because

they are Jews - when this

miracle occurs ask me

The Islamic Jihad also

opposes the Israeli-PLO self-

rule agreement and has con-

tinued attacks against

Israel has kept silent over

allegations it was behind the

killing of an Islamic Jihad

activist in Gaza last week.

'Israei behind murder'

A Palestinian human rights

group said Sunday there was

'strong circumstantial evi-

dence" that Israel was behind

All Palestinian factions im-

mediately blamed Israel for

the murder of Islamic Jihad's

Hani Abed, 35, who died

when his car blew up on

Wednesday.

Al Haq, a West Bank affiliate of the International Com-

mission of Jurists in Geneva,

reported that its research

"points to Israel's involve-

The group said Palestinian

police had arrested a col-

aborator who confessed that

the murder.

ment.

A: "Peace is not new for

Israel the nomination of

debts and projects.

ambassadors?

take place.

Saturday.

again."

equipment from Amer-

Q: The United States has

Majali reports improved ties

come up with a "platform of action" to address these ssues at the end of the meet-

Sabah Bakjaji, under-Secretary-General of ESCWA, told the opening session that Arab women had made "appreciable" achievements over the past decade, with literacy rising and health status improving as the spending on health and education increased. "Yet the number of poor women increased and the gap widened between legislation enacted regarding the rights of Arab women and the enforcement of that legisla-

conference. Women's participation in the decision making process remains limited, and the number of women suffering from wars, armed conflicts and sanctions has increased. Gender discrimination, especially among the poor and

tion," Dr. Bakjaji told the

rural groups, is significant.

The modernisation of Arab societies "culturally," with a special emphasis on youth, and changing stereotypes in education of women is

The theme of the Amman conference is "Peace for the Advancement of Arab Women," working on the premise that in times of peace, resources formerly utilised for war will be channelled to development, specifically with the conference's three primary goals; provid-

they would not, and he had to fight in the 1948 war and

Jordan also fought along with

the other Arab countries in

we have been negotiating

peace something that was continually the object of dis-

cussion in every home. We

cannot force people to nor-

malise their ties with the

Israelis but the people will

certainly feel the benefits of

will be any danger from

cultural and economic rela-

tions with Israel, because our

Arab culture and our abilities

Q: Do you plan to carry

out a government reshuffle in

A: "Many people have

Palestinian police arrested

Abed, a science teacher, on

May 24, four days after the

murder of two Israeli soldiers

According to his relatives,

police told them it was for

Abed's safety as Israeli

troops were hunting for him.

Al Haq said Abed himself had told them that the

Palestinian authorities had

warned that Israel wanted

The human rights body

also quoted a Palestinian in-

telligence officer as saying

the authority had been con-

vinced, "there was hot pur-

suit of Hani for the purposes

of kidnapping or even li-

It noted that just days be-

fore withdrawing from the

autonomous Gaza area,

Israel forces raided Abed's

house in Gaza City on April

30 seeking to make an arrest,

Al Haq finds strong cir-cumstantial evidence that

points to the involvement of

Israeli security agents in the assassination," the group said

The Hebrew press has re-

ported that Abed, the alleged

Islamic Jihad military chief in

but failed to find him.

fles are undesirable, but they

to compete are strong."

the near future?

or kidnap him.

on the Gaza Strip.

him dead or alive.

quidating him."

in a statement.

lah. In 1948, the King advised have to be made when the

the Arabs to accept peace but circumstances require them."

Hamas offers to end attacks

(Continued from page 12) ordered by Israel to kill Abed

"I do not believe that there

"For the past three years

opportunities for education

programmes and family plan-

tions agencies and governments participating at the conference will be lobbying have the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) ratified by some 14 Arab countries that have not as yet ratified this 1979 agreement. So far only seven Arab countries have ratified the convention with those who have not claiming that the convention

ing women with adequate health services, and equal

Minister of Planning Hisham Al Khatib, who deputised at the conference's opening session for Princess Basma, said that human development in the Arab World will remain "modest" unless there was a dramatic shift in the status of Arab women. He said that "legislation that respects women's rights and their status in society must be enacted," and health care

ning must be implemented.

Many of the United Na-

Some of the U.N. agencies are proposing comprehensive approaches to the women's rights issues. One of the leading advocates of a comprehensive, complementary approach is the United Naions Children's Fund (UN-

gional director of UNICEF. and work.

Regional meeting intends to mobilise Arab World

The data on the Middle East and North Africa region indicates that much has been achieved in terms of change, said Mrs. Vittachi. "Jordan has led in some of those reforms such as reducing education disparities between male and female children in basic and primary education; in the area of child mortality too there are a lot fewer disparities, Political will and implementation, said Mrs. Vittachi

goals are to be met. Education policies in contradicts cultural and reli-Morocco, were a case in gious norms in the Arab "As a result of high level

Vittachi citing political will and action as essential ingre-

Sarojini Vittachi, the re-

Israel, Oman

(Continued from page 1)

Muscat had decided to estab-

lish official relations with the

Jewish state, starting with the

opening of interest sections.

known how long the Israeli

delegation will stay in Oman.

which lies at the southern tip

of the Arabian Peninsula, or

what is on the agenda.

lateral working groups.

research centre in the Sultan-

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait,

Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and

the United Arab Emirates,

recently broke ranks with the

Arab League and scrapped a

secondary boycott of foreign

companies dealing with

The Saudi foreign minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, said

the move was aimed at en-

couraging Syria and Lebanon

to resume negotiations with

Israel, which have been stal-

But the GCC countries are

still committed to the

League's primary boycott on

normalising ties with Israel.

represented at the Oct. 30-

Nov. 1 economic summit in

Casablanca, Morocco, where

there were reports that Israel

had reached agreements with

Oman and Qatar to exchange

But in a statement Thurs-

day, Omani Trade and Indus-

try Minister Maqbool Ben

Ali Sultan denied that Mus-

cat plans to open such an

office in Israel "at present."

representation offices.

The six states were also

led since February.

The GCC, which groups

Bahrain.

It was not immediately

political commitment to girls ledge, a demand for change sensus. will follow, and then the UNICEF is also adopting polices which will address enrolment in primary schools in a particular area in Morocsupply is next." co, the number of girls who Mrs. Vittachi said that youth and girl children in particular. There has to be a attended primary schools inwhile there had been a high creased from 13-55% within degree of awareness and condialogue about some values sensus building at the nononly 18 months," said Mrs. and perceptions and the need governmental forum of

pleasures of inventions By Ian Atalla

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN - In the world of

paints and canvasses, there

dients to change.

are those artists who are held Mr. Beilin visited Oman in captive and watched over by April at the head of the the muse of passion. Israeli delegation to multi-Their work is an endless lateral talks on water, a spiseries of struggles to convey noff of the U.S.-sponsored the human predicament and Arab-Israeli peace process

to plumb the greater meaning launched in October 1991. But this will be the first And at the end of each time a senior Israeli official struggle, they seek to move

will visit the Sultanate for us with the result. direct talks with Omani lead-There is another sort of painter, however, who falls Oman was the first of the subject to a less harsh missix Gulf Cooperation Council tress. They are pulled to their canvasses by the simp

Israelis as part of the multisures of invention. In short, they paint to en-Last May, Qatar hosted a tertain and amuse themselves multilateral group, including - nothing more and nothing less. And, if they are good, Israel, to discuss regional disarmament. Last month they bring to us, the viewers, multilateral talks on the ena share of the delights which vironment were held in their work has given to them.

Such an artist is Adnan Oman last month hosted Sharif, if one is to judge by another group of Israeli wahis paintings on display at Ab'aad Art Gallery. ter experts for followup talks on plans to establish a water They can be classified as

only fantasy for fantasy's sake, with invention as king. Here a dotted line traces the line of motion of a falling apple. There, a billiard ball hangs for some unfathomable reason at the foreground of a jigsaw puzzle of other diverse

Painting by Adnan Sharif

universe, his chin propped on

his hands in meditation. Mr. Sharif's multitudinous whims seem to come at too rapid-fire a pace to allow him to portray one single subject on any one particular canvas - instead, they spill into the frame hurly-burly and run amok, in overlapping frames

and portals of imagery. There is rough technique at times, and a few canvasses

who thoughtfully ponders the said that Mr. Sharif's potpourri sense of imagination got a bit out of control, and detracted too much from the

overall unity of the painting. But his work guarantees one thing — that the viewer will never cease to be entertained throughout, from beginning to end, by his sensual love of imagery and boundless creativity.

Mr. Sharif's display, which began on Nov. 1, continues until Nov. 10.

Gaza, was planning a bombhe and accomplices had been ing in Israel. WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the duily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and

place with the concerned institutions.

* Film (in French) entitled "Un Dimanche a la Campagne" at the

French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m. * Video film entitled "Light of Gods" (with commentary in Arabic by Dr. Khalid Khreis) at Darat Al Funun at 5:30 p.m.

LECTURE

Lecture entitled "The Eipgraphic Survey of Bayir, Southern Jordan" by Dr. Fawwaz Al-Kraysheh at the American Center for Oriental Research (ACOR) at 7:00 p.m.

POETRY RECITAL

* Poetry recital by Zulnikha Abu Risheh at the Balka Art Gallery,

Faheis at 6:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of oil paintings by Ali Hussein at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ☆ Exhibition of paintings by Salam Kan'an at the Balkaa Art
- ☆ Exhibition of oil paintings by Iraqi artist Ibrahim Al Abdali at Orfeli Art Gallery.
- ☆ Exhibition of Arabic calligraphy by Abbas Ta'i at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art.

☆ Exhibition of paintings by Ahmad Na'wash at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation.

Gallery, Fubeis. ☆ Exhibition of art by Annie Sakkab at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition of art by Adman Al Sharif at Ab'ad Art Gallery.

☆ The First Computer Art Exhibition in the Arab World at Ain Art

motifs, among them a clown where it could be arguably LIWANA Taste of Tradition oja siši THE HANDICRAFT SHOP OF THE JORDAN DESIGN & TRADE CENTRE Noor Al-Hussein Foundation Off the Wadi Sagra Road Between Safeway & King Abdullah Gardens Open Sat - Thurs., 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Tel. 699141 / 699142

Chirac needs balancing act for presidential election campaign

PAIRS (R) — Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, the first major candidate for the French presidency, will need to achieve a tricky balancing act in his uphill campaign ahead of next year's election. analysts said Sunday.

Trailing in opinion polls behind fellow-Gaullist Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, he will have to tread a fine line between support and criticism of the government if he is to make up his handicap without appearing as the right's divider.

."The Paris Mayor-Elvsee candidate will have to reverse. the trend quickly or throw in the towel," the weekly Journal Du Dimanche said in an editorial headlined "Battling

Jack." Analysts said Mr. Chirac had little choice but jump into the ring to offset the

wants new

husband,

children'

LONDON (Agencies) — Princess Diana is determined

to remarry and have more

children some day, even

though there is no immediate

question of divorce from the

Prince of Wales, extracts

from a new biography pub-

on finding another man at

some stage," journalist Andrew Morton quoted an

unidentified friend of the

princess as saying in the book

Diana, Her New Life which

began serialisation in the

but she does have a vision."

"There is nobody in mind

The book is seen as the

princess's riposte to Prince

Charles's side of the story of

the break-up of their mar-

riage, also serialised in the

It paints her as increasingly

isolated, occasionally suicid-

al, still prey to the eating

disorder bulimia and believ-

ing in astrological prophecies

which say she will eventually

involved with a man born

cess, 33, was also obsessed by

her husband's relations with

his mistress Camilla Parker-

Bowles and frequently asked

her astrologer to cast her

with reincarnation, prophecy

and spiritualism, and be-

lieved that in a previous life

Mr. Morton also said Prin-

cess Diana hoped Prince

Charles, 46 this month.

would not succeed his mother

Queen Elizabeth but would

stand aside in favour of their

elder son. It described the

couple's battles over sons

Prince William, 12, and

Prince Henry, 10, saying she had threatened to flee with

them to Australia but was

reminded that constitutional-

ly the final word on their

Mr. Morton said Princess

Diana's relations with the

royal family, which she has

dubbed "the leper colony,"

were still extremely strained.

If the couple divorced, the

princess would get half her

The book said Princess Di-

Diana, Her New Life, is

Mr. Morton's seventh book on the British royal family.

His last one, published in

1992, revealed the difficulties

of the Wales' marriage and

was followed within six

months by their separation.

guages, Diana, Her True

Story sold five million copies

and is estimated to have

earned its 40-year-old author

plauded Princess Diana on a

rare public engagement

The glamorous mother of

two, who has largely retired

from official duties following

her 1992 separation from heir

to the throne Prince Charles,

attended a concert in the

Welsh capital Cardiff to com-

memorate wartime service-

Meanwhile, crowds ap-

some \$7 million.

Saturday.

Translated into 27 lan-

saying.

future lay with the queen.

she had been a nun.

She had become fascinated

rival's horoscope.

Mr. Morton said the prin-

Sunday Times last month.

"She is absolutely hell-bent

lished Sunday said.

Sunday Times.

'Diana

more

prime minister's higher pro-file. But he risked a burnout in a lonely marathon of shadow-boxing against opponents who have pledged not to say until next January whether they will join the

fray.
The first survey since Mr. Chirac threw his hat into the ring last Friday, 170 days ahead of the April 23-May-7 election, showed his boldness paid off. His standing jumped to 15 per cent from 10 per cent, while Mr. Balladur's dropped to 16 from 20 per

But the IFOP poll showed that European Commission President Jacques Delors, the likely Socialist candidate, stood to gain most from the feud in the right. Mr. Delors' standing surged to 19 per cent, ahead of Mr. Balladur's, although the 65-year-

PRETORIA (R) — South African liberal theologian

Johan Heyns was shot dead

at his home in a possible

assassination by white right-ists, police said Sunday.

The murder late Saturday

night outraged political and religious leaders, including

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and President

Nelson Mandela, who had worked closely with Prof.

Heyns to promote peace dur-

ing the country's transition to

Police offered a 100,000

rand (\$28,000) reward for in-

A police spokesman said

formation about his death.

Prof. Heyns died instantly

when he was hit in the head

with a single high-calibre rifle

democracy.

old conservative premier remained the favourite to win the election.

Mr. Chirac, 61, was expected to unveil the main planks of his campaign Sunday in a television interview, his first public statement since announcing his third presidential bid.

Commentators noted his line was unclear and the integration of France's economy in the European Union left little room for manoeuvre.

"French people know Chirac is Chirac... but they cannot find out who is Chirac," the left-wing daily Liberation has said.
"They, and neither he, have

not been able to find out if he is a hardline Thatcherite or a Labourite," it said.

S. African liberal churchman murdered

bullet fired through the win-

dow of his suburban house

near Pretoria as he played

"At this stage police are

dealing with the case as if it

were an assassination," the

respected theology lecturer who championed the anti-

apartheid movement while

leading the Dutch Reformed

Church, the country's main

He aroused the hatred of

rightist extremists by calling

for racial reconciliation in the

final years of white minority

rule which ended with demo-

Asked whether white right-

ists could have murdered

Prof. Heyns, a police source

Sightseers watch from a viewing platform the rain which has caused much flooding in the raging waters of the River, swollen by heavy south of France (AFP photo)

standing 1.6 metres (five

feet) deep in water after the

Var River overflowed Satur-

Departure lounges on the

main floor were covered in 30

centimetres (one foot) of

mud, and telephone and

computer equipment was out

Many underground park-

ing lots in the area were also

flooded and part of the A-8

autoroute was closed

In Corsica, a torrent swept

away a motorist late Saturday

night, while in Lozere, in the

although the water was re-

ceding Sunday.

French floods close Nice Airport

NICE (AFP) - Nice Airport of the international terminal,

cratic elections last April.

Prof. Heyns, 66, was a

cards with relatives.

spokesman said.

Afrikaans church.

In his two stints as prime minister in the mid-1970s and

mid-1980s, Mr. Chirac successively promoted statedriven industries and privatisations, and analysts say he does not hold deep economic

Despite nationalistic and Euro-sceptical rhetorics, he has in practice promoted European integration.

In his manifesto-style book A New France last June, he voiced scepticism of European Monetary Union and called for the fight against acute unemployment to take precedence over current tight budget and strong franc policies, relying on economic growth to sustain the curren-

The influential daily Le Monde said this would trigger a run on the franc and force a hike in French interest rates. hurting growth.

said: "Police will be investi-

A neighbour, David

Strauss, who saw Prof. Heyns

two hours before he was shot,

told Reuters the theologian

had previously mentioned threats to his life. He gave no

Mr. Mandela called Prof.

Heyns a "soldier of peace"

whose death was a loss for

"It is with shock and out-

rage that I've heard of the

cold-blooded murder of pro-

fessor Johan Heyns," Mr.

Mandela said, addressing

Hindu leaders at a religious

celebration in Durban.

Arch. Tutu said: "The

Anglican Church is deeply

shocked at the brutal murder

of Professor Heyns."

gating that angle."

the entire country.

details.



A newly trained Haitian police officer receives under the previous Haitian government have his graduation certificate during a ceremony in Port-Au-Prince graduating 750 police officers.

Both new recruits and officers who served

Aristide reviews 750 police personnel

rights abuses.

The transitional police will

be on patrol until new offic-

ers graduate from the Nation-

al Police Academy that is

scheduled to open in Janu-

ary.
In addition to Mr. Aris-

tide, interim Haitian milit-

ary leader General Jean-

Claude Duperval, U.S.

Ambassador William Swing,

Canadian Ambassador Fran-

cis Miles Filleul and U.S.

General David Meade, who

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AFP)

— President Jean-Bertrand
Aristide Saturday lauded the deployment of the first 750 members of the Transitional Police Force organised to maintain order as Haiti tries to establish democratic rule.

"I agree with each Haitian who agrees to help us put order in the streets in a spirit of mutual respect," Mr. Aristide told the group as he spoke in the local Creole dialect.

The transition force is composed of members of the existing police force selected by a special commission and screened for serious human

U.S. troops have been in Haiti since mid-September, securing the nation for Mr.

Aristide's return Oct. 15. Mr. Aristide had been in exile since a bloody September 1991 coup. by military leaders threw him out of office.

Members of the police force — which was part of the Haitian army during the three-year military reign — have been accused of committing serious human rights abuses including rape, murder and torture.

U.S. and international efforts are now focused on separating the police force from the army and retraining screened personnel to provide civil authority under a democratic government.

Albanians vote on new constitution

TIRANA (R) — Albanians went to the polls Sunday with some two million citizens eligible to vote in a referendum on a controversial new

The plebiscite is the first serious political challenge to the ruling Democratic Party of President Sali Berisha, in power since April 1992 when he beat the ex-Communists in general election.

vers, including representatives of the Council of Europe and the U.S. Republican Institute.

A total of 4,614 polling stations opened at 8 a.m. (0700 GMT). First voting trends were not expected before Monday.

Given the lack of modern communications in this rugged country of three million

A Democratic Party survey said some 72 per cent would vote in favour, 14 per cent against, 13 per cent would abstain and one per cent would cast invalid ballots.

A survey carried out by an opposition periodical forecast that 70 per cent of the population would vote "no."

Sunday's polling was being Sunday's polling was being people, the final 'result was monitored by Western obser-unlikely to emerge for several

people imprisoned for incit- report that Mr. Wang, an was sentenced to 10 years ing anti-government activities assistant professor of political from Dec. 16, 1987 for incitz 1989 and also freed four Tibetans sentenced for advocating the region's inde-

A bloody military crack-

Xinhua News Agency named the first four as Wang Xinlong, Ge Hu, Leng Wanbao and Wu Zhaoqiang and said they had been released on parole or on bail for

Mr. Wang, 49, a teacher at Shanxi University, was sentenced to serve eight years from June 16, 1989. Xinhua said he was granted parole "because he deepened understanding of his crime and

studies, had suffered a steady decline in health over the last three years.

Xinhua said Ge, 35, a college teacher also in Shanxi, was sentenced to seven years from June 12, 1989. It said that in prison he obeyed regulations and was bailed for medical treatment.

Asia Watch said Mr. Ge's health worsened in prison and he lost the sight of his right eye in 1993.

Xinhua said Mr. Leng, 34, a worker in the northeastern city of Changchun, was sentenced to eight years from June 10, 1989. He was given parole for his "good attitude" in recognising his crime and his good behaviour, it said. It said Mr. Wu, 27 and unemployed, was sentenced

to seven years by a court in Beijing. In February 1993 his term was commuted by 10 months. He was paroled because he gained understanding of his crime and behaved well in prison, it said.

Of the Tibetans Xinhua

BEUING (R) — China said The human rights group said Yulo Dagwacering, 65, a Sunday it had released four Asia Watch said in a recent teacher at Tibet University, ing anti-government activities and trying to split the coun-

> The agency said Tubdain Namzhub, 67, a Lama (monk) of the Johkang Monastery, was sentenced to nine years from Dec. 15, 1987 for trying to split the nation and was paroled for obeying prison management and reg-

Chung Bdag, a 38-year-old woman, was sentenced to

62, a farmer, was sentenced to five years in January 1993 by a Lhasa court for the same crime, with the term starting on Dec. 6, 1991.

He was paroled for recoguising his guilt and obeying prison management and rules, the agency added.

heads U.S. operations in Haiti, attended the cere-

Predictions of the outcome vary according to their origin.

China frees 8 political prisoners

pendence.

down on pro-democracy student protests in Beijing in June 1989 was followed by the arrest and sentencing of many supporters of the pro-

medical treatment.

It said the four Tibetants released on parole or with sentences commuted included a monk, a teacher and a farmer, the releases all took place "lately", the agency

behaved well in prison."

It said he was paroled for admitting his guilt and for good behaviour in prison.

seven years in June 1989 for the same offence and was released early because of her good behaviour in prison, it It said Cewang Baindain,

Friends, foes rally after Reagan diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease

husband's fortune, including his £20 million (\$32 million) LOS ANGELES (R) — Poliin investments and half his. tical friends and foes alike annual income estimated at rallied around former U.S. £4 million, Mr. Morton said. President Ronald Reagan after he announced Saturday ana would return to public he has been diagnosed with life next year to preside over Alzheimer's disease, an inthe 125th anniversary of the curable, mind-crippling dis-British Red Cross Society. order. "I'm coming back with a vengeance," it quoted her as

was shut down Sunday for at

least 24 hours after floods

inundated the international

passenger terminal, while

three people died and two

were reported missing in

weather-related accidents in

other parts of France, offi-

In Rome, Civil Defence

officials said four people died

Saturday as rain battered

northwestern Italy for the

said air traffic would be inter-

rupted until at least 6 a.m.

Monday so rescue teams

could clean out the basement

Authorities at Nice Airport

second day in a row.

cials said.

At a Democratic campaign rally in Oakland, California, U.S. President Bill Clinton said Mr. Reagan's announce-ment "touched my heart in a particular way." He asked his audience to give Mr. Reagan "a hand as he deals with this disease" and led the crowd in a round of thunderous ap-

Mr. Reagan's Vice President and White House successor. George Bush, said in a statement: "! salute President Reagan for his courage and sharing this private matter with the American peo-

Former Presidnet Gerald Ford and his wife Betty said: 'We are terribly sorry. We will be very supportive and wish the Reagan family the

very best."
Mr. Reagan's doctors said the 83-year-old Republican ex-president was in the early stages of the disease, which afflicts millions of people all over the world, and while he

is now in otherwise good health, "as the years go on it will begin to deteriorate."

"I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life," Mr. Reagan, one of the most popular presidents of modern times, said in a poignant, two-page handwritten letter to the American people. "I know that for America there will always be a bright dawn

California Governor Pete Wilson, a former Republican U.S. senator and a close friend and ally of Mr. Reagan, said during a cam-paign stop in central California: "I wish him God speed and I hope that his doctors can give him and Mrs. Reagan comfort and hope.

President Clinton Saturday praised Mr. Reagan but suggested there may have been signs of the former president's Alzheimer's disease when the two men first met in November 1992.

Speaking at the rally in Oakland, Mr. Clinton recalled that during a meeting with Mr. Reagan shortly after he had won the presidential election, the former president expressed annoyance at his memory loss.

"It was a fascinating conversation, but once in the middle of a conversation, he said, 'I forgot what I was talking about and it really makes me mad," Mr. Clinton said.

Cevennes, a farmer drowned

Friday and the Tarnon River

swept away three women in a

car. Rescue workers found

the body of one of the women

In Italy, Civil Defence offi-

cials said four people died

Saturday in the province of

Cuneo, near the French bor-

der, in accidents caused by

Two were killed in

Claverana When their car

was swept away after a bridge

over the Tanaro River col-

lapsed, while a third person

died in a landslide at Torre

Sunday. .

"We've disagreed on a lot of things over the years," he said of Mr. Reagan, "but he always fought with a sense of

And I have to say that he's been willing to put partisanship aside, to stand up for our country," Mr. Clinton said, noting the former president's support for the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and his backing of legislation imposing limits on handgun purchases

Mr. Reagan, who survived a 1981 assassination attempt ages of Alzheimer's.

and later underwent surgery to remove fluid from the brain, said he and his wife, Nancy, chose to go public with his condition to focus public attention on the rav-The disease, which afflicts four million Americans and

15 million people worldwide.

is a progressive, irreversible

brain disorder marked by a

gradual onset of memory

loss, disorientation, impaired

judgment and personality

Patients in the early stages can experience rage and depression as they helplessly watch their own deterioration, and loved ones often feel a painful sense of helplessness.
"I have recently been told

that I am one of the millions of Americans who will be afflicted with Alzheimer's disease," Mr. Reagan wrote.
"We feel it is important to

share it with you," said Mr. Reagan, a former B-movie actor who was known as "the great communicator" while in office from 1981 to 1989. In opening our hearts, we' hope this might promote greater awareness of this conition."

"Perhaps it will encourage clearer understanding of the individuals and families who are affected by it." he added. In recent years, as the U.S. population has aged, Alzheimer's has been the focus of increasing medical research.

Mr. Reagan said: "At this moment, I feel just fine. I intend to live the remainder of the years God gives me on this earth doing the things I have always done.'

But the former movie star.



Ronald Reagan

who has kept a low profile since leaving office, also appeared resigned to what lies ahead.

Unfortunately as Alzheimer's disease progresses, the family often bears a heavy burden," he said. "I only wish that there was some way I could spare Nancy from

this painful experience." Mr. Reagan's personal physicians said in statement that they first began to notice symptoms a year ago and recently diagnosed him in the early stages of disease after a series of examinations at the world-famous Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

S. African radio station releases 220,000 balloons

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JOHANNESBURG (AFP) A South African radio station released 220,000 balloons over a popular shop-ping centre to thank its listeners for pledging 1.2 million rand (\$304,000) to child welfare. Independent Radio 702 said it also hopes to break the African record for mass balloon releases with its effort. One balloon was released for every five rand (\$1.4) pledged, a spokesman for the station said.

6-page Lennon letter unmasks bitter feud

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Af-

ter the breakup of the Bea-

tles. John Lennon wrote a six-page letter to Paul and Linda McCartney that reveals deep anger and bitterness over the couple's rejection of Yoko Ono. The undated letter is Lennon's reaction to a note Linda McCartney wrote that chided him for critical remarks he made in interviews after the group's acrimonious 1970 breakup. "I hope you realise what (expletive) you and the rest of my kind and unselfish friends laid on Yoko and me since we have been together." Lennon wrote in the letter that will be sold during a Dec. 3 sale at the Butterfield and Butterfield Auction House. "Linda - if you don't care what I say, shut up let Paul write or whatever." Lennon continued. The name of the owner of the letter, which is expected to bring up to \$60,000, wasn't released by the auction house. Linda McCartney's dislike for Ono apparently stemmed from personality differences, and Lennon resented that. The Encyclopedia of Pop Rock and Soul states that fans believed Yoko Ono exerted too much influence on Lennon. and that contributed to the band's breakup. However, members of the group also were taking independent paths in their artistic development, which may have contributed to the breakup. At one point, Lennon wrote to Linda McCartney: "They ask me about Paul and I answer - I know some of it gets personal - but whether you believe it or not - I try to answer straight — and the bits they use are obviously the juicy bits - I don't resent your husband - I'm sorry for him. "I know the Beatles are 'quite nice people' — I'm one of them - they're also just as big bastards as anyone else, so get off your high horse, Lennon wrote, exhorting Linda not to act so superior.

Muriel dethrones the Desert Queen at film awards

Lennon concluded with,

MELBOURNE, Australia

Love to you both, from us

(AFP) - Muriel edged out Priscilla at the prestigious Australian Film Institute (AFI) awards here. The bitter-sweet comedy. Muriel's Wedding, took top honour of Best Feature film at the ceremonies. The public choice at the Cannes Film Festival, the Adventures of Priscilla: Queen of the Desert, had been tipped for big gongs but managed only two awards from its nine nominations. This fabulous road musical about two drag queens and a transsexual who travel across Australia to perform at an outback hotel has been a hit at the Cannes, Seattle and San Francisco film festivals, and a slam dunk at the box office. But plaudits here were muted and it took out only the awards for best costume design and best production design. Muriel's Wedding scooped the pool. Directed by P.J. Hogan, it follows the story of dowdy and plump Muriel Heslop who believes she must get married in order to be successful and flee her dreadful family life. Like Priscilla, it features ABBA music and other 1970s hits and has reaped millions at the box office. Toni Collette won best actress for her portrayal of Muriel, while Rachel Griffiths took supporting actress award and the film collected the accolade for best achievement in sound. The surprise of the night was the bleak urban comedy. Bad Boy Bubby, which clinched four awards. Among them was best actor award won by Nicholas Hope for his portrayal of Bubby, who ven-tures on to Adelaide's streets: after being locked in a room for 35 years by his abusive mother. Rolf de Heer won two awards for Bad Boy Bubby - best director and best

original screenplay.

putofau bligd. Himbon thinks. did some several left-merce on the

 $\mathtt{WASH}(x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{i+1}, K_i)$ Democrats and designations Take they beles superior money of safety

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6-page Lennon letter unmasks bitter feud

TOS MOTHER APPLIA

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Muriel dethrones the Desert Queen at film awards

220,000 balloons ROHANNEMICRG AR

Angolans gather in a refugee camp near Sao Pedro market outside Huambo. Despite a pre-peace agreement the govern-

Angolan town in an attempt to capture the rebel headquarters in Huambo (AFP photo)

Rebels down Angolan MiG over Huambo

ITA troops everywhere and the population is hidden hels shot down an Angolan government MiG jet as govaway in the basements of buildings," Fernando said. ernment troops advanced to About 50 foreign aid workwithin 15 kilometres of the rebel stronghold of Huambo ers were reported trapped in Huambo Saturday after gov-Sunday, Portugal's national ernment forces captured the nearby town of Caala. Fer-TSF Radio reported. "After some intense antinando said the aid workers aircraft fire (this morning),

UNITA succeeded in shootwere holed up in a Red Cross ing down one of two MiG jets compound isolated from the flying over the city," TSF correspondent Emilio Fer-The latest fighting followed the initialling of a peace accord, aimed at ending nearnando said in a telephone interview from Huambo. ly 20 years of civil war in the Fernando, the only foreign journalist reporting regularly southern African country, at

"Huambo continues to be

on red alert. There are UN-

WASHINGTON (R) — Democrats and Republicans

made their final appeals for

votes Sunday ahead of what

could be dramatic congres-

Republicans are fired up

by the prospect of taking control of the Senate after

spending eight years in the

minority, and the House of

Representatives for the first

time since 1954. They also

seem certain to win several

major governorships in Tues-

If that happened, said Sen-

ate Republican leader Bob

Dole of Kansas, it would be

the first time his party held a

majority of both houses of

Congress since 1952, when

Dwight Eisenhower was pres-

"One hundred and fifty

five million Americans have

been born since republicans

last controlled the United

States Congress," Gen. Dole

said Saturday.
"If Republicans gain con-

trol of the House and Senate,

we will put government on a leash, we will cut the congres-

sional budget, we'll vote on

term limits, we will vote on a

balanced budget amendment

and we will require Congress

to live under the same laws

that it imposes on small-

business men and women."

Thirty-five of 100 Senate

soms, all 435 House seats and

36 state governorships are at stake Tuesday.
President Bill Clinton.

whose domestic agenda would be effectively killed by

republican majorities in either the Senate or the

House, appealed to voters

not to turn away from his

This is not the time for

America to turn away from

party and its policies.

day's mid-term elections.

sional and state elections.

the end of October. A full signature of the peace accord is due to take place in the Zambian capital Lusaka on Nov. 15 followed by a ceasefire two days later.

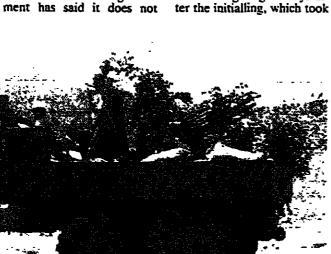
UNITA (National Union for the Total) Independence of Angola has said the talks would "go down the drain" if Huambo falls and the governintend to capture the city, only take positions nearby. Civil war erupted in Ango-

la after independence from Portugal in 1975. A brief peace after 1991 accords ended when UNITA rejected defeat in U.N.-sponsored elections and returned to

The U.S. ambassador in Luanda, Edmund Dejarnette, appealed at a news conference Saturday for the government to halt its offensive, saying continued fighting would jeopardise international support for a possible peace settlement.

Angola's ruling MPLA party denied Sunday that its offensive on Huambo violated a peace accord initialled last week.

MPLA Information Secretary Joao Lourenco said in remarks carried by state-run media the government could continue fighting 17 days af-



Augusta rebel troops move an anti-aircraft forces in the Senhora Do Monta Mountains in

us?" he said in his weekly

and our country are at stake.

With all my heart and soul I

believe America will con-

tinue to make the choice to

keep moving forward, to be

"The future of our children

radio address.

"The government is violating absolutely nothing. The government is not invading any foreign territory, it is not even violating the Lusaka protocol," he said.

'War is taking place throughout Angola, from Cabinda to Cunene. In principle, this war will last until 17 days after the Lusaka protocol was initialled.

We would like to give assurances that on that day, and as long as UNITA agrees to sign the Lusaka protocol 15 days after it was initialled, the Angolan government will strictly adhere to the ceasefire that will come into effect two days after the signing of the accord," he said.

A full signature of the peace accord is due to take place in Lusaka on Nov. 15 followed by a ceasefire two days later.

State-run radio reported Sunday that President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos intended to send a delegation to sign the peace protocol with UNITA chief Jonas Savimbi.

The Central Committee of the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) Saturday recommended that the National Assembly approve the accord before the signing. The special U.N. envoy in

Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, who has been mediating 11 months of peace talks in Lusaka, amiyed in Luanda Saturday expressing hopes that a ceasefire was still achievable.

"I cannot believe that the people who initialled the Lusaka accord would refuse to sign it," state-run media quoted him as saying. gan some seven kilometres from government the Caala region, southwest of Huambo (AFP)

U.N. reports bitter fighting for northwest Bosnian town

in Bosnia increased sharply Sunday when rivals fought pitched battles on several fronts and forced NATO planes to fly over and silence guns threatening a Sarajevo

The struggle for Bosanska Krupa in northwest Bosnia continued Sunday with both the Muslim attackers and the city's Serb defenders suffering heavy casualties, the United Nations reported.

"There was heavy fighting in Bosanska Krupa with an unspecified number of heavy casualties on both side. U.N. spokesman Major Herve Gourmelon told Reuters.

Government forces have been attacking the town since launching an offensive 11 days ago, forcing the Serbs to retreat in northwest and central Bosnia and taking some 250 square kilometres of territory in the Bihac pocket alone.

The multi-pronged Muslim assault in northwestern, central and eastern Bosnia severely stretched limited Bosnian Serb manpower and hampered the move of their armour, forcing them for the first in the 31 month old war to yield large swathes of territory to their hitherto poorly-

The Bosnian Serb parliament will meet Wednesday at noon to endorse the decision by the supreme command to impose a martial law across the 70 per cent of Bosnia they hold, parliament secretary Milos Savic told Reuters.

The move is designed, together with an all-out mobilisation now in place, to counter Serb military set-

But the Serbs appear to have reversed some of the Muslim gains and emerged on the main road leading to Bibac town, just 18 kilometres from the regional

The Serbs claim to have taken Ripac and Pritoka 15 kilometres east of Bihac Sunday morning, Yugoslav News Agency, Tanjug, reported. These, and the whole of the pocket, were severely

shelled Saturday but the U.N. could not confirm the Serb gains and said the fierce activity in the zone had dropped overnight. Maj. Guermelon said

(AFP photo) Sarajevo and captured by the Serbs in August, was very active with a high level of motar and artillery fire which

middle of the region. Activity was also reported on the confrontation line west of Bugojno where the United Nations have said they expected a fresh push on to Serb-held Donji Vakuf in the wake of a successful

Muslim-Croat offensive on

ments to the northwest of

Krst, a small feature in the

the Kupres plain. Maj. Gourmelon said government troops, trying to cut a supply road between Serb territory in east and southeast Bosnia, appeared to have rolled to a halt on the Bjelsanica-Trnovo front line near Sarajevo.

"We don't think the BIH (government army) has got nay closer, the situation is still the same," Maj. Gourmelon said.

Hours earlier, U.N. spokeswoman Captain Cemerska Planina, north of Miriam Sochacki said U.N.

A Bosnian-Muslim woman (centre) leans with her father (left) at the gravemarker at the grave of her sister during a funeral ceremony. The 26-year-old sister was killed three days ago at the frontline at Mount Bjelasnici overlooking Sarajevo. She was serving as a military doctor in the Bosnian government army

military commanders had asked for NATO planes to fly over Saraievo late Saturday to halt an artillery exchange preceded large scale Bosnian between Bosnians and Serbs. The Sarajevo sector comgovernment troop move-

mander asked for air presence to persuade the parties to stop firing," she said. She said the firing ceased shortly after the overflights by three NATO jets. 'It was a serious sequence

of events that could have gravely destabilised the situation in Sarajevo," a senior U.N. figure said. A NATObacked U.N. ceasefire in the city has broadly held since it came into effect in February.

The clashes began when the Muslim-led Bosnian fired at last four mortar rounds from the village of Butmir onto the Serb-held suburb of Ilidza at around 1900 GMT, starting a series of violations of the 20 kilometres total exlusion zone for heavy weapons around Sarajevo.

We assess it as a BIH (Bosnian army) offensive, said Major Gourmelon.

from liaison officers andmeetings between senior U.N. military commanders were judged to have been successful in restoring calmby the early hours of the morning, Capt. Sochacki

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic blamed the U.N. Protection Force in Bosnia Saturday for and escalation in fighting, saying! it had not fulfilled its obliga-

"UNPROFOR bears enormous responsibility for the: inevitable escalation of the war," Mr. Karadzic said in a letter to U.N. special envoy. Yasuhsi Akashi obtained by

Reuters. He said Muslim-led Bosnian government troops: abused the protected areas which have never been demilitarised and serve in fact as armed strongholds andspringboards for launching military offensives against the

Mr. Karadzie said UN-PROFOR should demilitarise the protected areas."We demand that UNPROFOR carries out its responsibilities in accordance with (what) it stated to us that it would undertake," he said.

"We warn you that we shall defend ourselves with all the means available and that no one has the right to hinder our defence.'

Western diplomats in Belgrade said Mr. Karadzic's letter could be read as "an apology for a counteroffensive.

One said: "Since nothing has been done to stop the Muslims from wading out of Bihac, the West has probably tied its own hands as far as any action is concerned should the Serbs mount a successful counter-offensive on the safe area.'

A Reuters Television crew in the Bihac pocket said the Serbs were recapturing land om government forces. It filmed Serb movements on the Bihac-Bosanski Petrovac road only 18 kilometres southwest of Bihac, previously held by the Muslims.

The television crew confirmed Serb reports that Serb units had managed to retake Kulen Vakuf and quoted a Serb soldier as saying: "Let's hope that no one now will prevent us from entering Bihac."

Eastern Zaire ready to blow — U.N. official

whole of eastern Zaire, where more than two millionrefugees from Rwanda's civil war are crowded into squalid, violence-ridden camps is ready to blow, a senior U.N. High Commissioner for Re-fugees (UNHCR) official warned in this lawless border

Joel Boutroue, the head of the UNHCR's emergency team in Northern Kivu province, told AFP that the massive flood of refugees into the region had exacerbated longstanding political tensions and anti-Rwandan senti-

According to international relief workers, clashes which erupted in March last year between Zaireans and established Rwandans, mainly Hutus, over land ownership have been repeated in recent weeks, especially in the Mas-

isi area They say at least 250 people have been killed, scores of houses torched, cattle stolen and vast tracts turned into a wasteland in the clashes, while members of Rwanda's minority Tutsi tribe have been sent fleeing Masisi in terror back to their

GOMA, Zaire (AFP) - The ancestral homeland. Mr. Boutroue said that be-

cause the refugee population, the largest in the world, is more than double that of the local community, tensions will continue to rise. "If this blows, and it may

blow very quickly, you could have an explosion of the entire eastern Zaire: Then that will be another piece of cake," he said. Long-standing insecurities

and resentments were being exacerbated as refugees flooded into towns and villages, plundered Virunga National Park's rare rain forests, disrupted the tourist trade and sent inflation spir-

More significantly for the Zaireans, Mr. Boutroue said, is that preparations for national elections are being hampered by the inability to carry out a census due to the massive influx of Rwandans.

Mr. Boutroue said. In the camps themselves, banditry and thuggery have become rife as Hutu militiamen take control of all aspects of camp life, including food distribution, while also engaging in gunfights.

"No census, no election,"

grenade attacks and mob kill-

ings.
Mr. Boutroue repeated his call for the deployment of international peacekeepers, saying that only once order has been restored and genuine dialogue established. will it be possible to proceed with attempts to persuade therefugees to return to Rwan-

"An extreme situation needs a radical solution," Mr. Boutroue said to justify his call for an international deployment.
"We need to prepare the

ground for a return ... We've got to go full speed on that or the situation will deteriorate."

Relief workers claim that the former Rwandan government has set up power structures in the camps replicating the prefecture system that existed in Rwanda, with former prefects whose hands, in the words of one relief worker "are dripping in blood,"

taking key positions. On Thursday, 15 humanitarian organisations — including Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders), Oxfam and Care —

threatened to pull out if im-

mediate measures were not taken to end rampant criminality and anarchy in the camps.

In response to the growing demands, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali is expected to propose the deployment of an inter-African police force of up to 2,000 men to restore order in the camps when he attends a crucial meeting in Geneva Tuesday.

Mr. Boutroue said the former government relied on the refugee population both for political and economic powerand added that their power ploys may have been thwarted had an international force been deployed from the-

The longer the refugee situation existed, the graver the crisis would become, he warned.

The UNHCR would consider pulling out, he added, if it was "completely unable to carry out its mandate."

"We don't want to with draw," Mr. Boutroue said: "Withdrawing will not help the situation or the people who are the most vulnerable: It will just destabilise things

Pakistani forces drive Islamists from airport

days of battles. At least 17 security men

were wounded in the airport battle, sources in the paramilitary Frontier Corps said. The militants fired mortar bombs and rockets, said the witnesses.

about casualties among the heavily armed militants, who predominantly tribal Malakand division area of the North West Frontier Pro-

Shariat-I-Mohammadi (TNSM), carried their dead and wounded with them when retreating from the air-port near the militantinfested town of Mingora.
The witnesses said the pa-

ramilitary Frontier Corps

Japan's Ozawa rules himself out as premier TOKYO (R) — The man visiting foreign official, is

ture prime minister or even leader of the opposition. But Ichira Ozawa, who last

year organised party realignments that led to the ousting of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) after 38 years in power, vowed to continue his work to drag Japanese politics into the 21st century.
"I am the type of person

that says things directly to people. This type of person the Japanese do not like. Therefore I am not in a position to become leader of a party or head of a govern-ment," Mr. Ozawa said in a television interview.

Mr. Ozawa, since mid-1993 including judges, as hostages. | an obligatory call for every

now at the centre of efforts to create a new opposition party to challenge Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's fourmonth-old coalition govern-

Mr. Murayama's coalition of his Socialists, the LDP and small Sakigake Party.

In other developments, former Prime Minister Tsutor mu Hata, leader of Mr. Ozawa's Shinseito Party, called for early elections and the second-largest opposition party Komeito took steps to join Mr. Ozawa's planned

are demanding enforcement of Islamic Sharia Law in their PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) - Pakistani paramilitary

troops freed a northwestern airport from rebellious Islamic militants Sunday in an early morning battle in which at least 10 security men were killed, officials and witnesses Sunday's deaths of nine

paramilitary troops and a security official at Saidu Sharif Airport and of two policemen elsewhere raised the toll to at least 21 from two

There was no information

the future, to turn to the easy promises of the past. Why Walter Mondale, Georgia Senator Sam Nunn, U.N. seats to take control and they would me ever want to turn could come very close. back to policies that failed

Mr. Cook predicted the biggest Republican landslide since 1966 when the Democrats lost four seats in the Senate and 47 in the House. He said the Republicans would win eight Senate seats

strong, to seize the future, Polls this week showed Mr. Clinton's Democrats are going into this election with their lowest support level for any mid-term election since Democrats have led the

Parties in final push before U.S. election

ly to survive. national House vote by an average of nine points in the past 20 elections. In 1978, when Democrat Jimmy Carter was president, they polled eight per cent more votes

than the Republicans and still lost 15 House seats. Yet polls have shown support for the two parties this year roughly equal. In several surveys, the republicans have even been ahead.

It these polls are correct. the Democrats could be massacred because republicans are much more likely to come out and vote this year than Democrats. 'Republican and conserva-

galvanised as I've never seen them," said political analyst Charles Cook. "They are pumped. They really dislike Clinton very strongly and they're coming

tive voters are energised,

out. And conversely, Democratic voters - whether it's labour, minority, liberals — are despondent, they're disappointed," said Mr. Cook. In the Senate, the Republicans need a net gain of seven seats now held by Democrats to win a majority - and they

that number despite some close races. In the House, the Republicans need a net gain of 40

seem placed to win at least

and 35 House seats.

The best news for Democrats is that several of the party's old stalwarts, including Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy and New York Governor Mario Cuomo, have pulled themselves back from the brink of extinction and now look like-

Others, including House Speaker Tom Foley, are still fighting an angry, anti-Washington, anti-liberal tide.

Several key governor's races, including Texas and Florida where two sons of former President George Bush are running, are too close to call. But Republicans will make gains at this level as. well and could control most of the biggest states, making life difficult for Mr. Clinton

in his 1996 re-election bid. Even before Tuesday's election returns are in, there's talk of turnover in President Clinton's cabinet to clear the decks for his anticipated run for re-election in

Some top officials may leave the government to prepare his campaign. But no matter how the vote to renew Congress and elect key officials in many states turns out, there won't be wholesale changes, administration in-

Until recently, it was wide-ly assumed Mr. Clinton would reorganise his foreign policy team, with Secretary of State Warren Christopher and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake likely candidates for replacement. Former Vice President Albright and retired General Colin Powell, ex-chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, have figured in speculation about successors for Mr. Christ-There was also talk that

Ambassador Madeleine

Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, Mr. Clinton's old Oxford roommate, might replace Mr. Lake.

These changes now seem less likely and certainly are not imminent. White House officials say it wouldn't make much sense for the president to shake up the State Department and National Security Council when he is basking in the afterglow of diplomatic triumphs in Haiti, the Middle East and Korea.

Aides said Mr. Clinton's recent Middle East visit strengthened his estimation of Mr. Christopher, particularly at a juncture when a peace agreement between Israel and Syria could be

"It's obvious to me that going to these meetings with all these leaders, including Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, that they trust the United States, they trust Chris, and they trust what we say, and I think that's an important thing and enables us to keep going." the president told reporters.

Mr. Clinton's economic policy is also a political bright spot for him, making it unlikely he would want to shift or replace treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, Commerce Secretary Ron Brown or Labour Secretary Robert

Attorney General Janet

Reno, almost an afterthought

for the administration's top law enforcement job two years ago, has become such a star of Mr. Clinton's cabinet that she too is probably politically indispensible.

vince bordering Afghanistan. Local residents said the militants, members of the fundamentalist Tehrik Nifaz

troops, who moved in the area Saturday to crush a virtual revolt by the militants, were advancing toward other TNSM-held areas, including the nearby Matta area where the militants are holding about 130 government officials.

who plotted Japan's greatest political upheaval since World War II firmly ruled himself out Sunday as a fu-

Mr. Ozawa's rare appearance on television and evenrarer appearance at a politicai rally last week seemed the start of a coordinated opposition campaign to bring down

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By Waleed Sadi

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Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 696183

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Moving the goal posts

AS WAS widely expected, the peace treaty with Israel passed the Lower House of Parliament yesterday with a comfortable two-thirds majority. Its passage thus marks an important turning point in the history of this country and heralds a new, promising beginning for its people.

In order to understand the new era that we are entering — we are basically talking about a process of moving the goal posts of Jordan's socio-economic and regional policies here — our people have to be given the chance to digest the meaning and the depth of the debate that preceded yesterday's vote. Considering the huge gap that separated the view of the majority of deputies from that of the minority, there should be little wonder that the debate was accompanied by so much tension in the country as a whole. But, in the final analysis, this should help rather than distract us from learning the right lessons.

First of all, the occupation of the entire country with the treaty demonstrates that there is no absolute right or wrong when it comes to assessing the entire peace package with Israel. The majority view which is supportive of the agreement is right but only in relative terms. The same could be said about the opposing stand: It is wrong also in relative terms since it is not totally devoid of any merit. What is absolutely wrong with the opponents of the treaty is the fact that they have failed to regard the entire package in real terms or comprehend the regional and international constraints that accompanied the peace process right from the start.

In absolute terms, the accord with Israel did restore to Jordan certain basic rights including secure and internationally recognised boundaries. This is no small feat by any stretch of the imagination. The country's water rights were also restored at a time when the long-term water shortages threatened the very survival of the nation. Above all the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Kingdom were reinforced and recognised not only regionally but also internationally. The least that could be said is that the country now enjoys fixed boundaries that are no

longer open to question.

The concern of the opposition can be characterised as falling into two basic categories. One that is essentially doctrinaire, either religiously or politically. This posture would reject any kind of deal with Israel no matter how equittable or fair it is as a matter of principle. The other stems from concern about the impact of the treaty on Palestinian rights in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 242. This anxiety is flawed by the fact that the PLO itself opted to disengage from Jordan's efforts to stand by the Palestinian side throughout the negotiating process. It was the PLO that separated from Jordan and not the other way round.

Of course, the Israeli-Jordanian peace agreement has an impact on the Palestinian negotiating strength just as the Oslo Palestinian-Israeli deal had a direct effect on the Jordanian bargaining position. Yet this result has not been Amman's deliberate and free choice. If there is any controversy in the treaty with Israel it may have been associated with the fact that it had to be concluded as a surgical operation rather slowly cooked as a good meal.

Needless to say that a surgery was required and its aftermath was not going to be as pleasant

It is here when the opponents of the treaty have to realise their role from now on. They have to accept that the majority has opted for a new lease

of life — not only for themselves, but for the country as a whole.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

COMMENTING ON a visit to Jordan by Russian envoy .Victor Posovalyuk, Al Ra'i Arabic daily Sunday expressed appreciation of the Russian government's role in the peace-making process. But, the paper said, the Arabs expect a more active role on the part of Moscow, to exercise pressure on Israel to respond to the requirements of a comprehensive peace and pull forces out of the occupied Arab lands in Palestine, Lebanon and Syria. Israel should be persuaded that peace with the Arabs works far better in its interest than all the arsenals of conventional and mass destruction weapons at its disposal, said the daily. A comprehensive peace, said the paper, is bound to ensure for Israel and the Arabs' security, stability and well-being without the need for stockpiling weapons that can only cause destruction and suffering. Jordan, said the daily, has always been keen on attaining peace on all fronts and benefiting all parties, and it hopes that the Jordan-Israel peace treaty would pave the way for the attainment of this

Human Rights File

HRC should reserve time for 'reservations'

MANY GOVERNMENTS resort to entering revervations on some parts of human rights treaties that they ratify in a bid to reconcile their desire to become parties to such human rights instruments while at the same time maintain the validity of certain domestic legislations or practices that may run counter to them. The right to enter a reservation for such purposes has however become so widespread and abusive that treaty bodies that monitor these conventions are questioning the legality of at least some of such

The Human Rights Committee on Civil and Political Rights has recently had an occasion to pronounce itself on the issue of the reservations by articulating and adopting guidelines on how to view and interpret any such reservations. It was discovered, for example, that 46 state parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) have entered no less than 150 reservations to their acceptance of their obligations under it. For this reason, the Human Rights Committee (HRC) has deemed it useful to examine the international law and policy

implications of these reservations.

At the outset it was established that the ICCPR neither prohibits nor mentions any type of permitted reservations. Then, it was decided that notwithstanding the above, the absence of a prohibition does not necessarily mean that any reservation would be permitted. It was also decided that

the issue of reservations under the covenant and its first protocol is governed by international law. Article 19-3 of the Vienna Convention on the law of treaties states that a state may make a reservation provided it is not incompatible with the "object and purpose" of the treaty. The difficult task is of course the definition of what constitutes the object and purpose of any given treaty.

The HRC set out to define what is obviously part and parcel of the object and purpose of the ICCPR. Accordingly, it was concluded that a reservation to Article 1 of the covenant that accords peoples the right to determine their own political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural rights would be incompatible with the objects and purposes of the covenant. The same would apply if therewere a reservation to Article 2 that prohibits any form of discrimination. Here we have to take a pause because this is where many Arab and Islamist countries have affixed their reservations on the issue of discrimination between males and females on such matters as inheritance, their citizenship rights and those of their children and other manifestations of differential treatment between man and

Arab and Islamic countries have become parties to the ICCPR and other similar conventions on the basis that their reservation on the issue of differential treatment between man and woman be maintained and held lawful

under the covenant. Now this widely-held view appears threatened by the recent ruling of the HRC which declared that such a reservation even if based on religion runs. counter to the objectives and purposes of the covenant and therefore is not permitted.

Of course the problem of reservation does not rest there. There are constraints imposed by the committee on other subject touched upon by the covenant. For example, any reservation that pertains to any non-derogable provision of the covenant would be deemed as incompatible with the objectives and purposes of the ICCPR. A prime example of non-derogable rights is the prohibition of torture. No state may make a reservation of the article in the covenant that outlaws the ill-treatment or torture of people.

In retrospect it is hard to tell in an exhaustive way that areas of the ICCPR can be the subject of reservations with impunity. This means that the HRC will have to constantly develop its jurisprudence on this matter and in the process guide state parties as to what they may enter a reservation on and what they may not. Meanwhile, the first hurdle is the lingering discrimination between men and women in our society. It remains to be seen what our government intends to do about the ruling that any form of discrimination between the course of the tion between the sexes is unlawful and that entering a reservation thereon is also not permitted.

East Germany fading away five years after wall falls

By Marcus Kabel Reuter

LEIPZIG, Germany — The Berlin Wall has gone and the physical remains of decrepit communist East Germany are vanishing

But Germans still eye each other warily across what is popularly called "the wall in people's heads", the psychological imprint left by the symbol of four decades of cold war division in Europe.

In big cities like Leipzig and across the region, a relentless wave of construction and renovation crew are eradicating the crumbling, grey buildings and bumpy roads that were communist East Germany's

most visible trademark. Physical reminders of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), as East Germany was officially called, are rapidly following the Berlin Wall into oblivion.

As a virtually new region merges, many eas say the changes since unification in 1990 are also beginning to erode the differences between East Germans - nicknamed "ossis" - and their western cousins ("wessis.")

"What was an East German identity is in the process of disappearing," says Klaus Kaden, a Lutheran pastor in Leipzig.

Mr. Kaden was active in the 1989 peaceful prodemocracy uprising that reached a high point in Leipzig with mass demonstrations that helped breach the wall on Nov. 9, paving the way to unification the following October.

Today's teenagers have almost forgotten what the GDR was like. But my generation will have to die out before the east-west division in identities fully vanishes," 43-year-old Kaden told Reuters.

In industrial Leipzig, cranes tower over the once grimy downtown area, where both historic buildings and socialist office blocks are undergoing a

thorough renovation. Most of the city centre's omate 18th century indoor mails — monuments to Leipzig's history as a European trade centre - were empty or closed off in GDR

Now they have been restored as shopping centres full of chic boutiques. On the edge of town, shiny new office complexes and sprawling shopping

centres have sprung up. "Things change so fast that sometimes, when I drive into town at night recognise where I am." said Olaf Opitz, a Leipzig journalist who now works in

Another Leipzig native, Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Hans-Dieter Manegold, predicts that all signs of the old GDR

will be gone in five years. "You used to recognise East Germany by its rotting factories. In five years, you will recognise it by Europe's most modern production plants and offices,"

Mr. Manegold said. Overall investment in East German construction has swollen from 50 billion marks (\$33.35 billion) in 1991 to 124 billion marks (\$82.70 billion) this year, according to the German Construction Industry Association.

"This is historically unique," says the association's spokesman, Heiko Stiepelmann. "Even the reconstruction of West Germany after World War II did not have this kind of growth at this level of investment in such a short time."

Pastor Kaden and others say many easterners are troubled by the switch to western rules in work and everyday life. Unemployment is still

higher in the east, at an unadjusted 13.8 per cent of the work force in September compared with 7.9 per cent in the west, and recovery remains unevenly spread around the region. But the deference many easterners showed at first to

the wealthier and selfassured Wessis has under-"All the new construction actually makes you proud," Mr. Opitz said. "You see all this change and think, "we Ossis are pretty good, too." All that

stuff about lazy Ossis just isn't true." Another factor in the new "Ossi" self-confidence is the necessity many easterners see of taking care of themselves after western interest dropped off following

unification. "Westerners are just not interested," says Barbara Hoell, a parliament deputy from Leipzig for the Reformed Communist PDS, the successor to East Germany's hardline ruling party that has established itself as a protest party for the east.

"This disinterest has a tradition: in the GDR, anybody who had the right antennae watched western television. But how many westerners watched GDR television?"

Eastern self-confidence and western indifference mean that the psychological legacy of division will take longer to erase than the physical evidence.
"Nobody wants to admit

it officially, but five years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, East and West Germans still strike each other as strangers," says western psychologist Leo Ensel from Oldenburg Uni-

Mr. Ensel conducted role-playing experiments with eastern and western students for 18 months to explore how much they dif-

These formed the basis of his 1993 book "Why we don't like each other what Ossis and Wessis think about each other." In one of his experi-

ments, each group had to mime an everyday situation and the other group had to guess what it was.
"When the easterners got

up for their pantomime, the western students were completely stumped," Mr. En-

"The easterners acted out a typical situation for the GDR - waiting in a long line for a telephone

Washington Watch

Dark days for Democrats, losses for the American public

By Dr. James Zogby

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S poll ratings are up and incumbent Democratic senators and congressmen are fighting to save their seats, but it may not be enough to prevent a Republican takeover of Congress.

The electorate is either angry or alienated and both spell trouble for incumbents, the majority of whom are Democrats. Yet this anger and alienation are, in large measure, the production of these incumbent polticians. After years of running negative attack campaigns, voters no longer trust or respect those who run for office. Watching any amount of television this election season has made it easy to understand

American television is a commercial venture, with television programmes interrupted every 15 minutes for two to three minutes of advertisements which run onsecutively, each 30 or 60 seconds in length. These ads are used to sell cars, beer, toothpaste, detergent or a variety of other products or services. It is the advertisers who sponsor the

programmes. During the election season, those same advertising slots are bought by political candidates for the same fees that would be paid by the product advertisements

they displace. During the past two weeks, these political ads bave taken up all the available commercial time slots, and television has become a constant forum for political campaign messages. Not only has the quantity of these political buys been higher than usual, but the use of negative ads is up as

Viewers in New York, for example, are first exposed to a negative ad for Republican gubernatorial candidate George Pataki on incumbent Democrat Mario Cuomo for paroling a prisoner who repeated his crime, only to be confronted by a Cuomo attack ad against Pataki which accuses the Republican of failing to pay taxes to the state. In Virginia, Democrats incumbent Senator Chuck Robb and Republican challenger Oliver North are running competing negative ads, each one accusing the other of being a liar. The same pattern is also evident in California between Democratic senate incumbent Dianne Feinstein and Republican challenger Michael Huffington. The effects of all this

negative advertising on voters is numbing. One commentator recently noted that if fast-food restaurants McDonalds or Burger King acted this way (that is, promoted themselves by attacking the integrity and quality of the other), people would avoid both restaurants because they would lose faith in both.

In effect, this is precisely what has happened in U.S. politics. Two-thirds of the voting public most probably will not vote in this election and those who do will either be ideologically driven

right) or voting out of anger at the incumbents or fear of a candidate they dislike being elected office.

It is not just Mr. Clinton's popularity that has become an issue in U.S. politics — it is the public trust in government itself. While the president has rebounded somewhat and now has a net positive approval rating of 49 per cent to 45 per cent, Congress fares much worse in the public eye. The same poll that found a positive approval rating for Mr. Clinton showed that the public approval rating of Congress is a low 20 per cent, with a disapproval rating of 73 per cent.

When asked whether or not members of Congress ought to be reelected, the public responds with 11 per cent yes and 82 per cent no. Even when asked about their own members of Congress, who usually fare much better in the eyes of their constitutents than the Congress as a whole, the cent favouring reelection with 53 per cent opposing.

It is telling that Democra-

tic incumbents who were dragged down in the polls by their association with Mr. Clinton, are not rising in popularity along with their president. In many cases, this is because the incumbents in question have put so much distance between themselves and Mr. Clinton that they cannot now (without looking extremely hypocritical) take credit for Mr. Clinton's achievements. Of course, the very fact that they are incumbent politicians is also a component of the weight that keeps them from rising in the polls, because it ties them in the public's mind to a very

strong negative sentiment. This negative climate, created in part through negative ads for electoral reasons, has produced a hurdle for governing which the president and his party are finding difficult to overcome. Despite positive eco-nomic indicators, the public still feels by a 2-1 margin that the country is in an economic downturn, and the same majority feels that the U.S. economy "is on the wrong track" and not headed towards recovery. Thus, the momentum that Mr. Clinton traditionally would have enjoyed for several quarters of good economic news, and which would have in turn helped to pass his other programmes like health care and welfare reform, has been

denied him altogether. Yet despite these negative indicators, Mr. Clinton is fighting hard through non-stop campaign visits designed to save his Democratic majority in the House and Senate. Following his upsurge in the polls, some Democratic candidates are now welcoming the president's support; and Democratic gains are now especially evident in New York, California and Virginia. New York's Governor Mario Cuomo and California's Senator Dianne Feinstein, New Jersey's Frank Lautenberg and Mas-

sachusetts' Ted Kennedy are all doing much better in their states in the week before the election than they were doing even two weeks ago. In other races, particularly in the open seat races (created by the retirement of Democratic senators), where only two weeks ago the Republican seemed assured of victory, the margins have closed and those elections (in Oklahoma and Michigan) are too close to

But the Democrats still face a serious of losing control of the senate. There are four other open senate seats (resulting from Democratic retirements) in Maine, Arizona, Tennessee and Ohio which Republicans will almost certainly win, and three incumbent Democrats (Tennessee's other Senator Jim Sasser, Senator Harris Wofford of Pennsylvania and Virginia's Senator Chuck Robb) whose races are too close to call.

There are no certainties in most of these outcomes, but it is clear thus far that the anti-incumbent mood among voters will have a negative impact on the Democratic Party. Of the 16 senate races that are too close to call, Democrats will almost certainly lose no fewer than four, and could possible win back one or two from the Republicans. Four other senate races (in California, Massachusetts, New York and Tennessee) will probably stay in the Democratic camp, and the others can go either way.

One important component in four states will be the growing power to the far right wing of the Republican Party. Through the traditional method of building up support and organisation from the grassroots level, the far right will be a major play in elections this year in Virginia, Minnesota, Michigan and California. In California and Minnesota, the far right backed challenges to the reelection campaigns of Republican governors only to be rebuffed, and it remains to be seen whether they will vote in large numbers for the incumbent Republicans (Pete Wilson in California and Arne Carlson in Minnesota) or stay home in

the far right will have the biggest impact. Because voter turnout is expected to be so low across the United States, voter turnout will be an important factor in de-termining the winners on election day. But get-out-the-vote (GOTV) drives take experience and are not easily done overnight. In Virginia, while Chuck Robb and the Democrats have traditionally enjoyed an edge in GOTV efforts, Oliver North is being back-ed by the state's far right community, which only last year brought out over 785,000 voters to support their under-funded candidate for lieutenant governor. With North's prodigious campaign warchest at their disposal, the far rights' GOTV campaign could well swing Virginia's senate seat

But it is in Virginia where

In the House of Representatives, things also look dark for the Democrats. While the Democrats currently hold an 83-seat majority, a swing of only 42 seats (which is within the realm of possibility) would bring the Republicans into

in the Republican column.

the majority; but an even smaller gain could gain the GOP ideological control of the chamber. It is important to remember that several of Mr. Clinton's most important victories, including the assault weapons ban and his budget package, passed by the slimmest of margins and even 10 more Republican votes would have made the difference. It is with this in mind that Democrats worry that of the 78 House seats rated as toss-ups on election day, Democrats are defending 63 of them, and the Republicans only 15. There will be Republican gains in the House this November;

the only question is how

many and which seats.

Again, the role of an ener-

the balance toward the Re-

publicans in a close elec-So the Republican gains from 1992 will be complimented by more gains this year — that's the bad news for Mr. Clinton. The good news is that the president is in a better personal position than he has been in the past year, so it is unlikely that the losses of his party will be viewed as a personal rebuke of Mr. Clinton by

The president will, however, face an extremely trying time in dealing with the new Congress for the remainder of his term. That Congress will certainly be more heavily Republican than it is now, even if the GOP does not attain majorities in either the House or senate than it was during the last two years. The Republicans will be emboldened by their gains and will be eager to derail the president's agenda and inflict what political damage they can in preparation for their own party's bid to recapture the White House in 1996.

Mr. Clinton performed well under similar circumstances since his election two years ago, though increased Republican strength will mean he cannot afford to repeat the political missteps of his first two years. So it can be expected that Mr. Clinton will move further to the centre of American politics in order to win some legislative victories and avoid total "gridlock" in government.

The real story of the 1994 elections, however, cannot be found by measuring wins and losses for this or that party, or this or that ideolo-U.S. voting (and non-voting) public and their . The real losers are the confidence in government and elected officials, as they continue to be battered by negative ads that shake this confidence in all who hold elective office. This ugly environment makes it difficult for any politician to win and hold the public trust that is needed to govern effectively in this country.

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By Walced Nadi

Debate at Lower House:

Deputies discuss pros and cons of peace treaty

The following are summaries of speeches made Saturday and Sunday by deputies at the Lower House of Parliament during debate of the peace treaty signed with Israel on Oct. 26.

Ahmad Qudah (Ajloun)

Peace was not the choice of Jordan alone but an option decided by the Arab and Islamic countries, said Mr. Qudah. Noting that Egypt concluded a peace treaty and the Palestinians had gone their own way, Mr. Qudah said Jordan had suffered a great deal from aggression and in seeking peace it had sought coordination with the other Arab parties.

He said Jordan had no alternative to defending its rights but to follow the path of peace and ensure its sovereignty over its territory and water resources.

The deputy said that it was true that the treaty was something that "shook our concepts and our values but it is the reality that we have to deal with and we have to strive towards a brigher fu-

Suleiman Al Saad (Jerash) (Islamist)

n public * Voicing opposition to the treaty. Mr. Saad asserted that the treaty had dangerous imin the Repulsion county
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sentatives, things also leed
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While the Democrate on plications and would have serious consequences on

The treaty forces Jordan to trust the Jews but our Koran teaches us that the Jews are never to be trusted," said Mr. Saad.

He charged that the treaty "aims to provide" protection to Israel and demands normal relations with the enemy which is resented by the people and is demanding that the Jordanians end the state of belligerency with the Jewish state, something which detrimental to the nation." The treaty, he added, will cause deep rifts within the Arab ranks and destroy all hopes for the Islamic Nation to attain its rights in the holy

,Tajan Faisal (Amman)

What is the point of discussing the treaty when the govemment has already taken the decision and concluded the treaty, Ms. Faisal said. The government has

abused its authority to serve deputy, who accused the official information media of claiming that the treaty enjoys the support of 100 per cent of the people. Why then is security tightened everywhere if this is so?" she

"While the treaty says that we have regained full sovereignty over all our lands, we can see that a Jewish settlement is in place on our territory with Jewish settiers free to come and go."

Abdul Aziz Jaber (Amman) (Islamist)

Mr. Jaber said Jordan had completely abandoned Arah ranks in the Middle East conflict by signing the treaty with Israel, securing only Israeli and American guarantees to keep it as an independent political entity in the region.

This will cause a new crack in the Arab-Islamic wall and would enable the Zionist entity to go through it to penetrate the region casily, thus making Jordan a gate for the great Zionist project in the region," Mr. Jaber

This will weaken the Arab parties negotiating with israel, especially the Syrians and the Palestinians, he said.

The Jews, he warned, "are influential in the world and are directing the resolutions of international legitimacy as the world countries are competing to win their favour." He voiced his fear about

provisions in the treaty which might be used to target the Islamists and blamed the government for not including U.N. Security Council Resolution 194 on the reputriation of refugees in the treaty.

Abdul Rahim Ukour (Irbid) (Islamist)

Mr. Ukour, who spoke also on behalf of his IAF colleague Talai Oberdat, said the treaty failed to regain Jordan's full rights to the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers water and said he hoped that the government did not believe that this treaty has terminated "the project of the

substitute homeland." Mr. Ukour said Israel was suffering from a demographic problem affecting its structure and nature as a racist country, specifying the prob-lem as the existence of three million Palestinians on its land. "The Israeli leaders realise that their entity will never be stable unless it gets rid of this demographic threat," he added,

He said people will be dis-appointed by the full normaisation of relations with Israel, which is still occupyingour lands and shedding the blood of our sons."
He continued that it was

not a shame for nations and peoples to be defeated, adding that this happened re-peatedly in history. "It happened with Japan and Germany and other nations, but the shame here is not to call things by their names."

He said the coming genera-tions will not be satisfied with the treaty and will continue their march towards regaining Jordan's full rights to water, land, holy places and

Mohammad Owaida (Balqa) (Islamist)

Mr. Owaida objected to ending the state of enmity with Israel, arguing that the reasons for enmity still exist.

Saying the government had underlined that through delineating the borders with Israel it had secured Jordan's borders, he asked which side needs recognition of its borders, Jordan or Israel.

He charged that article eight of the treaty deals with the problem of refugees and displaced persons as a humanitarian problem rather than a political problem, and instead of tackling it, it was delayed to future stages.

He stressed that the Palestinian question, which is the centre of the Arab-Israeli conflict, was not resolved by the treaty, and underlined that the Palestinian problem is the cause of all Arabs and Muslims, and the Palestinians are only spearheading Arab and Muslim efforts to liberate their occupied lands.

Jamil Al Hushoush (Karak)

Mr. Hushoush of the Progress and Justice Party voiced support for the treaty, saying of Jordan.

The treaty. Mr. Hushoush said, gives back to Jordan its rights to its land and water and cancels the "greater Israel project" which was adopted by the Zionist movement since its establishment.

"We support the treaty and bless His Majesty King Hussein's steps over these major national achievements and we highly value the efforts of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in this regard." he said.

Khalil Haddadin (Amman)

Mr. Haddadin said, Arab policies had failed over a period of half a century in dealing with the Arab-Zionist conflict and that as the Arab countries attended the Madrid conference in 1991 they lacked any degree of coordination.

He said the Jordanian people were surprised by the Palestine Liberation Organisation signing of the Oslo agreement with the Israelis and the declaration of principles which produced the Gaza-Jericho first scheme.

"This way the sole representative of the Palestinian people have relinquished its demand to liberate Palestine from the (Mediterannean) Sea to (Jordan) River," he

said. He argued that the treaty contradicts article one of the Jordanian Constitution when it was made binding in case of its contradiction with any Arab agreements or commitments as if the Jordanian people are no more part of the Arab Nation.

Nader Abul Shaar (Irbid)

Jordan adopted the decision to sign the peace treaty with Israel only after the Palestmians had taken steps to establish their authority on Palestiman land, said Mr.

Abul Shaar. "With this treaty Jordan has obviously regained its land and water rights and ensured for itself the aspired security and stability which are required for economic

prosperity," he said. The current world circumstances and the situation

in the Middle East as well as the disarray in Arab ranks have no doubt speeded up the process of peace, leading to the signing of the treaty with Israel," he said. "Jordan would no doubt work hard to help the other parties attain peace and security and ensure the return of all the occupied Arab lands so that a comprehenisve peace can be established in this region."

Mustafa Shneikat (Balqa)

Voicing opposition to the peace treaty, Mr. Shneikat said that coming in the wake of three years of negotiations between the Arabs and the Israelis the treaty does not secure the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, "This treaty, which does not meet the requirements of a just and durable peace, has come about as a result of the success of the American-Israeli alliance in ensuring divisions in Arab ranks, the deputy

"It is a dangerous step that would harm Jordan's national sovereignty and the country's future." Mr. Shneikat said. 'We are only demanding the implementation of U.N. resolutions something which has not happened so far. Therefore reaching a peace treaty at this juncture means surrender to Israel."

"We reject the peace treaty with Israel" he added "because we consider it as a show of disregard to the U.N. resolutions and the legitimate rights of the Arab people."

Ali Shatti (Balqa)

Voicing his support for the peace treaty, Mr. Shatti said no one should demand from Jordan to remain waiting alone for the outcome of the Israeli negotiations on other

The peace treaty entails all that Jordan has been seeking and for which Jordanians have offered sacrifices, he said. Jordan, he added, had always supported a comprehensive peace on all tracks but the Kingdom cannot just wait indefinitely endangering its national interests, he said.

Saleh Shawata (Irbid)

Mr. Shawata said that as a Jordanian of Palestinian origin he could not recognise Israel's occupation of Pales-

"My village where I was born and where my relatives live is under occupation and this applies to all the displaced Palestinians who have been suffering from displacement and living in camps," Mr. Shawata said.

"This is not a treaty that ends the state of war between two nations but it rather came as a result of international and Arab circumstances and I hope that the Jordanian leadership would continue to seek the rights of the Palestinian people," he noted.

Mr. Shawata said "I appeal to His Majesty King Hussein to help the Palestinian refugees who continue to suffer from occupation and displacement."

Abdullah Akaileh (Islamist-Tafileh)

Criticising the peace treaty, Mr. Akaileh said that Israel had sought to exclude Jerusalem from it and refer it to the final stage of negotiations with the Palestinians. But the Jews are insisting that Jerusalem is their eternal and united capital, he noted.

"Since the early days of this century the Jews have sought to take the conflict out of its pan-Arab and Islamic context dealing with each Arab state separately."

No one would expect Jordan to liberate the whole of Palestine on its own but it should also be said that our struggle with the Jews had never been over a 300 kilometres of land or 50 to 235 million cubic metres of water, said Mr. Akaileh. He declared his opposition to the treaty.

Abdul Majid Azzam (Ajionn)

Voicing support for the treaty, Mr. Azzam said that the Kingdom had the right like all the other Arab states to turn its attention to its own interests and the interests of

Concluding the treaty does not mean that Jordan will turn its back on the Arab and Islamic nations," he said. "Jordan will remain committed to pan-Arab causes."

"Jordan has been steadfast and had never interfered in other Arab countries affairs and has paid dearly following the Gulf crisis for adopting pan-Arab policies," Mr. Azzam said.

Addressing the opposition, he said that he would support the opposition if it come up with alternative proposals for a formula that would end poverty and the no-war nopeace situation and the lack of security and stability in the

Khaled Abdul Nabi Al Ajarmeh (Amman)

'Our negotiators have succeeded in regaining every inch of Jordan's lost territory and the peace treaty came to crown their efforts," Mr.

Ajarmeh said. Following the example of the Palestinians we have reached agreement with Israel to ensure stability for the Jordanian people," he said. He noted that Jordan is a country with meagre resources and limited potentials depending on assistance from Arab states which have turned their backs on the Kingdom for the past four

"Furthermore, the return to Jordan of more than 350,000 people from Kuwait in the wake of the Gulf war has made matters worse for Jordan and turned Jordanians bitter about such treatment from the other countries," Mr. Ajarmeh said.

Farah Rabadi (Ajloun)

"The treaty we are discussing today is not a novelty for us because it has been negotiated over the past three years," Mr. Rabadi said.

The majority of the Jordanian people rally behind their leadership and accept peace and support the King's endeavours in his efforts," he said.

Criticising those who opposed peace negotiations from the start, Mr. Rabadi said that "had we delayed the treaty further we could have needed a miracle to save us

from the complexities." Jordan has realised that the time has come to direct its attention towards its own interests after having devoted much of its past efforts towards serving others, he

Bassam Haddadin (Zarqa)

Voicing one's opinion on the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty is a great responsibil-ity, Mr. Haddadin opened. Issues concerning the homeland do not tolerate overbidding or compromises since "all of us, government and opposition, are united for the good of the homeland," he

"To be able to do that we must hear each other welland find the best means to ensure interaction of all oninions, and participation in the national decision-making process."

Mr. Haddadin accused the government of giving a deaf ear to opposition, hiding information from it and concealing its intentions and in general dealing with the opposition in a hostile man-

"Whenever progress was made in the negotiation process, the government had tightened its grip on the opposition and limited participation in the decisionmaking process to the smallest circles and sometimes to

few individuals," he said. Mr. Haddadin said the government did not only absent the opposition from taking part in decision-making, but also absented its own supporters, whether at the Lower House or in political

"I do not exaggerate if I say that ministers were also the last to know," Mr. Haddadin charged. That government behaviour leads to

suspicion, he said. He held a comparison with the other party to the treaty, Israel, noting that he had not heard about any detention or banning of marches or sit-ins. There were continuous dialogues on the other side (Israel) between the government and the opposition, he said adding that the govern-ment could have involved the opposition in the negotiations. "Had it done so we would have been able to ensure better terms."

Mr. Haddadin said the Jordanian opposition did not agree to the treaty in its present form, and calls on the government to renegotiate to bridge the gaps referred to. He said the government of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali which signed the treaty should resign or be made to resign, because it did not initiate dialogue with the constitutional and political institutions in the country before signing it. Mr. Haddadin called for a public referendum on the treaty.

Deifallah Momani (Islamist, Ailoun)

"Any peace treaty between the Jews and any Arab state is considered a difficult option, but for Jordan it is the hardest because Jordan has never worked for itself in isolation of other Arab and Islamic countries," Mr. Momani said.

He said the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty has encouraged some Arab leaders to visit Israel. He warned that Jews will not adopt Arab great values even if they live amongst us for decades. He said that Jews were masters of terrorism and extremism, although they are accusing others of being terrorists and

Jamal Khreisheh (Central be-

"It is the duty of our Parliament to care for Jordan's interests, affording them priority over all others," Mr.

Khreisheh said. The people of Jordan have elected us to serve them honestly and protect their interests and, therefore, we have a duty to support the peace treaty which ensures security and the rights of the Jordanian people.

Noting that the Palestinians "went ahead before us and negotiated their rights,' he said Jordan could not wait and see its rights lost and leave matters for others to plan its future.

'After studying this treaty we can only declare our support for it since it regains our rights," he concluded.

Ahmad Al Kofahi (Irbid)

Accusing the government of disengaging Jordan from the Arab and Islamic nation through this treaty, Mr. Kofahi said that one should take lessons from the past and remember that the Jews never respected agreements with any party and, therefore, the treaty would not help Jordan regain anything.

This treaty is a sell out of Palestine, Jerusalem and the Arab and Islamic nations' rights," said Kofahi express-

ing his rejection of the treaty.
"This treaty is bound to help the Jewish state achieve the so-called greater Israel at the expense of the Arab Nation," he charged.

Criticising the Jordanian negotiators Mr. Kofahi said that they excelled in their theatrical performance and in misleading the media, resorting to deception. Levelling criticism on the government, the deputy said that the government had been accusing the opposition of being against the regime but deep down it realises that this was not the case. "The opposition has a constitutional right to express its views regarding all issues and has the right to declare its views openly to protect public interest."

Hammam Said (Amman)

Mr. Said said that the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, similar to the Oslo accord, Washington meetings and the Cairo agreement, was surprising to the people.

"It has been imposed by force, by martial law, by the confiscation of freedoms and the stifling of people's

"Had it been a people's choice, people would have their say on it," he said. He said such agreements have become the norm since

the 1970s. "They have been written in the books, with all the industrial, agricultural and tourist projects they envisage."

Dr. Said said the first chapter of the Zionist project had ended by the occupation of Palestine by force, and the second chapter will be completed by peace.

He stressed that Jordan and Palestine form one geographic and demographic entity and that most of the tribes in Jordan have their roots in Palestine and most of the tribes in Palestine have their roots in Jordan. He criticised the treaty for

'failing to address the issue of the refugees and the displaced persons.' Jordan, he said is committed by virtue of its constitu-Irbid) tion to the West Bankers who

are an inseparable part of

Jordan in good times and in

bad times. Jordan is also

sons who constitute more than half of the Jordanian people, he said. The Palestinian concern is Jordan's concern, and the dislocation of Palestinians from this body is tantamount

refugees and displaced per-

to the removal of a man's heart or lung, he said. He warned of Jewish immigration to Palestine, saying that Jews have plans to send four to five million Jewish immigrants to Palestine by the year 2000.

Dr. Said wondered whether the Jordanian negotiators had addressed this

problem properly. He voiced his rejection of the treaty, not because he did not understand history, he said, but because the treaty included many problems which were left to consultation with the Jews.

Mohammad Adoub Al Zaben (Central bedouins)

Dr. Zaben said he was not supporting the treaty because Jordan was acquiring something through the treaty that was not its own, but because it restores its usurped rights.

'Some colleagues say that this treaty has contradicted the Jordanian Constitution which bans any relinquishing of Jordanian land in their reference to severing ties (with the West Bank), but how can this be called relinquishing while there is a selfrule authority in the occupied territories with the blessing of the international community?" asked Dr. Zaben.

"How strange that we can forget the past! Before about 20 years, in 1974, when King Hussein addressed Al Rabat (Arab) summit, he said: 'And if the summit wants to exclude the legitimate representation with only the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and consequently end Jordan's direct role in political work and in demanding and negotiating despite its stand, rights, existence and sacrifices and all that it had offered for this (Palestinian) cause, Jordan will any way preserve its pan-Arab position on this cause and will

work for its victory'." Dr. Zaben said that after this decision at the summit the PLO became the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said that time there were no the decision and there were no politicians or intellectuals condemning it. But, he continued, "when Jordan, under its Hashemite leadership, and with its loyal people, have managed to regain its rights, it was surprised by demonstrations, articles, speeches,

lectures and seminars." "Based on that, I am with the treaty out of my conviction that the Arab-Israeli conflict has now taken its current national form. The treaty, in the national Jordanian context restores the Kingdom's legitimate water and land rights, and delineates its western borders," he concluded.

Mahmoud Huweimil (the Jordan Valley)

Mr. Huweimil said that he supported the treaty and called on the Jordanian people to unify their ranks in preparation for the future stages. He said that the treaty had

several good aspects about it, including demarcating the Kingdom's western border and disallowing involuntary immigration. "Every one knows how

much we have suffered because of the emigration to Jordan and how much the Jordanian people have shouldered and how much the Jordanian treasury has paid to offer services to immigrants and displaced people.

The treaty, he added, also "commits" European states and the U.S. to developing the region, restores Jordan's water rights, calls for fighting drugs and urges economic development. Furthermore, the treaty opens the door for Jordanians to benefit in technological fields, he noted.
"The most positive aspect

in the treaty is that His Ma-

jest King Hussein has com-

mitted himself to all that was

mentioned in it and we com-

mit ourselves to what he committed himself," said Mr. Mohammad Daoudieh (Tafileh governorate) (for Awad Khleifat (Maan) and Abdul Razaq Theishat

Mr. Daoudieh said any negotiations mean mutual concessions and mid-way

peace, we are not considering it as Constantinople conquest, nor as a sell out or treason, since any negotia-tions mean mutual conces-

sions and half-way meeting." Mr. Daoudieh reviewed the history of the Hashemites and their struggle and sacrifices in defence for Arab causes. He said His Majesty King Hussein has refused an offer to sign unilateral peace with Israel after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, although the late Egyptian President Jamal Abdul Nasser advised him that time to do so.

Mr. Daoudieh said the Madrid peace conference implied collective Arab agreement to unilateral solutions: A Syrian track, a Palestinian track, a Lebanese track and a Jordanian track. The Oslo accord was the culmination of a pan-Arab resolution adopted by the Arab summit in 1974. That resolution gave the Palestinians the full right to address their national interest through their independent decision and national

sovereignty. The Oslo accord was tantamount to a declaration of burying inter-Arab coordination which was a term with no

meaning. Therefore, it was incumbent on Jordan to fend off marginalisation and conspiracy with all its political, economic and demographic dimen-

The signing of the Jordanian-Israeli agreement was the result of all these previous developments, Mr. Daoudieh said. Those who reject the treaty are doing so because they see that the splitting of Árab-Israeli conflict into tracks and bilateral agreements will minimise the gains they are expected to reap had they acted as one team negotiating in one track: This is true, he said.

The second argument of those rejecting the treaty is that Jordan and King Hussein could have dealt with a complete package and intertwined elements, and could have sustained the least losses and the greatest gains. Mr. Daoudieh said Jor-

dan's hopes and dreams of liberation, return and unity had lost great and successive chances for peace. "We could have been offered more had we grasped such opportunities." However, he said, Arab political thinkers had not grasped these opportunities, nor had they embarked on any historical steps serving the interest of the nation because of their

fear from such labels as traitors. In the meantime, the Zionist movement was forming its alliances, ensuring political, financial, military and scientific support, and was Judaising the land and people. while we were announcing in public that we are going to dump Israel in the sea.

Mr. Daoudieh said peace is a long-sought human goal, and is a great and strategic one. However, he added, what Jordan seeks is a sustainable, lasting, just and comprehensive peace.

Mr. Daoudieh supported House's Foreign Affairs Committee recommendations and called for directing special attention to the issue of refugees and displaced persons in view of its importance for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the

Abdul Hafez Shakhanbeh (Madaba)

Deputy Shakhanbeh said that as he was following addresses by fellow deputies he detected in these addresses, whether for or against the treaty, a sense of care for the country. "My kind colleagues," said

Mr. Shakhanbeh, you are all keen on this homeland ... Weren't you frightened by the concept of the substitute homeland? Weren't you frightened that solving the Palestinian problem would only be done in Jordan through the establishment of a Palestinian state in this country? Weren't you frightened by the fact that Jordan was included in the Balfour Declaration? Didn't you hear the Zionist song that says: "The Jordan River has two banks, one for us and the other is also for us"? Weren't you frightened that Jordan was threatened with division and disappearance as an entitv? Those were really serious sources of fear for me," he

said. Mr. Shakhanbeh said his fears were reduced by the treaty. Despite the shortcomings in it, he said, the treaty still had lots of positive elments.

"No one can claim that it a great victory but it was the best that could be achieved: these difficult times. I canno deny that I was dreaming o the better, or at least that having Israeli withdraw: from all the territories occa pied in 1967 and afterward including the land of Pate tine and its capital Jerusalen which is in the heart of eac of us. How not when we wer raised on these things?"

"My dear colleagues, th treaty was the best that ke could get at these difficu circumstances" "I like to point out to tw issues that were discussed b

the members of the House Foreign Relations Comuli tee which debated the treaty "- Regarding the issue; Jordan's quitting all the pre vious agreements contraver ing this treaty, including th Arab joint defence agree ment, I say that the way understood it, Jordan can us the help of any Arab forces's any time whether that was fo self defence or for attack an

this treaty will no more b "- For those saying the Jordan got less than its shar of water specified by the Johnston plan, I ask then how was the share of Pales tine calculated? Or isn't i clear that Syria is now gettin from the Yarmouk river wa ter 150 million cubic metre more than its share specified

by the Johnston plan?" ! . "I appeal to the government to regain Al Baqour; area owned by Jews and a convert it to a plantation and call on the government to make do without the water i is getting in the north tem porarily ... and for that Israe should stop using Jordanial wells in the Wadi Arabi

Nazih Ammarin (Karak)

Mr. Ammarin said Jordat was suffering from the no war, no-peace situation, and because of its limited resources, the economic embargo, conspiracies target ting its security, insufficiency of water, stifling indebted ness and rising unemploy.

"I say to those who say 'alright, we realise how bac the status quo is, so let us leave matters for the coming generations'," that I respect this view, but out of my faith in the interests of the country and the need to place these interests above all other personal considerations, I

oppose this view for the following reasons: "- Solving the problem can never be through avoiding it and through speeches. statements and slogans. "- Delaying the problem

simply means the continua! tion of the no-war, no-peace situation. "- I remind you of the series of lost opportunities which characterised the emotional way the Arabs death with the Palestinian problem.

We always regretted what we refused earlier. "All of us remember the 1947 partition plan which was approved by the wise Jordanian leadership then, and which we rejected in accordance with the irresponsible emotional reaction if we today refuse what we are

offered, would we have anymore to decry and to regret? "Despite all that was said! about the treaty, we think that through this treaty we gained a lot of what we were

demanding." Mr. Ammarin continued by saying that the treaty did not end the Arab-Israeli conflict, but has moved the Arabs to a more advanced and complicated form of conflict. "It has moved us from the unified (military) confrontation to a multi-front battle of economy, science, knowledge and loyalty. It is the multi-dimensional battle of peace ... it is the battle of challenge in tourism, economy, industry and agriculture, and indeed it is a heated

He said Jordan has the capabilities and potentials to fight "the battle of peace, and asked his fellow deputies: "Why do we fear the future? should we, as opposition, only reject the treaty, and normalisation by organising marches and issuing some, statements? I call this form of opposition a negative one that is nationally unacceptable, especially that the treat ty has now become a realify ... and the opposition is now required to play a positive. role in waging the battle of

peace.'

Dollar flow jumps by the millions in election battle

Rosy economic data fails to boost Clinton

the economy is growing, inlation is under control and memployment is down. So vhy is President Bill Clinton m the defensive ahead of l'uesday's mid-term legisla-

Paradoxically, voters renain pessimistic about the economy, according to recent polls. A Newsweek survey hwowed 59 per cent of Americans believed the economy is still in recession. en though economic prowth is nearly four per

In fact, the recession ended n the spring of 1991, and the J.S. economy has grown a otal of 10.7 per cent over the ast 14 quarters. Inflation neanwhile has remained projund three per cent in

In a late electoral swing, Vir. Clinton has heralded the conomic data, including Frilay's report that unemploynent had declined to 5.8 per ent in October from 7.4 per ent two years ago. He noted hat five million jobs have seen created in the last 22 months, but many voters renain unconvinced.

Only 25 per cent of persons surveyed in a Time-CNN poll aid they believed their situaion had improved in the last

Mr. Clinton and the Democratic Party could pay a neavy political price for his liscontent in elections for 35 of 100 senators and all 435 epresentatives that could swing the balance in at least one chamber of Congress to

the Republicans. Economists say the positive economic figures belie a troubling reality in the country: Income and social benefits have declined in the first two years of the Clinton presidency for the middle class he courted in his cam-

paign.
Living standards continue to decline and people often work longer hours for lower pay with less job security, analysts say.

'There is a squeeze on American workers today," said Allen Sinai, chief economist for Lehman Brothers Global Economics.

"Productivity gains and low inflation are coming on the backs of American workers. We've got what looks like the healthiest economy in decades, but that doesn't sound good if you are working two or three jobs without any benefits, and your wife is working, and you're just keeping even with where you used to be," he explained. Mr. Sinai estimates that half of the jobs created since the end of the recession are

temporary ones with low pay and little or no benefits. Government figures show that while business productivity has risen, the average family income after inflation declined one per cent in 1993 and a total of seven per cent

from a 1989 peak. "It's clear that the majority of people don't have reason

to feel good about the eco-nomy," said Lawrence Katz, a Harvard University eco-

"Most of the growth that we are seeing is benefiting people with relatively high levels of education and who are already relatively affluent, and that is worsening our income gap," he

White House aides are seeking to put a positive spin on the figures, saying Mr. Clinton has made a good start in reversing a long trend of

"Maybe the message hasn't been heard, or maybe this wasn't a typical recession and we haven't had a typical recovery," said Laura Tyson, chief of Mr. Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers.

But the president talked in 1992 about how Americans were working more for less and you cannot change a trend like that — which has been going on for 15 years — in a period of 20 months," she added. "We have put the recovery on a strong foundation, and now we have begun a strategy to deal with the economy's long-term prob-

Meanwhile, spending this year for seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate has jumped to \$449 million as of Oct. 19, up \$71 million (19 per cent) over the same period in 1992, according to the Federal Election Commission.

For 10 years, Senate Re-

Democratic challenger held the record for campaign spending, doling out \$25.9 million in their 1984 North Carolina Senate battle.

But that record went down in flames by mid-October as the Senate battle in California between Democratic incumbent Dianne Feinstein and Republican challenger Michael Huffington rang up a \$35.9 million price tag — a spending rate of over \$100,000 a day since the year

began.
Mr. Huffington alone has spent \$25.2 million, with \$24.8 million of that sum coming from a personal for-tune amassed in Texas oil dealings. That translates itno slightly more than a dollar per voter in California.

In Virginia, Republican Oliver North is waging an acrimonious battle to strip the Democratic opponent of his seat, investing over \$20 million in the struggle - or \$4 per voter.

Two years ago, election campaigns shelled out \$504 million to elect 435 members to the House of Representatives and one third of the senate. 1992's figure oustripped 1990 totals. This year's mid-term elections promise to be even more costly.

The clamour for campaign reform has risen over the years. Bill Clinton ran in 1992 on a pledge to support a vast reduction in campaign spending and encourage greater

But Congress proved unable to come to terms with the issue this year, allowing reform measures to fall by

And in the United States, major corporations do not besitate to help politicians who may prove useful, regardless of their political peruasion.

In 1992, with George Bush in the White House, money poured into the Republican pot. This year the stream has shifted to Democrats, who control the executive and the

legislature.
In 1992, Archer-DanielsMidland (ADM), a leading agricultural and food producer, donated over \$1.1 million to the Republicans and only \$237,000 to the Democrats.

This year, the ratio flip-flopped: As of June 30, ADM had given out \$261,000 to the Democrats and 7,500 to the Republicans. Donors hope for an open ear from those they have

lavished funds on. The more the practice is attacked, the more the money flows. Conversely, when the threat of reform recedes so does the flood of money.

The money flow also is issue sensitive. Contributions to candidates supportive of Israel have declined with the spread of peace in the Middle

U.S.-Israeli political action committees, organised to raise money to influence Congress, cut their spending to \$1.2 million by June.

Economic growth boosts Islamic banks' market share

DUBAI (R) — Islamic bankers believe solid economic growth in Muslim countries is responsible for the increasing market share held by Islamic

banks in these states.

"The growth of Islamic banking is not a reflection of growing awareness of Islam. nor of Islamic fundamentalism, but the result of economic growth in the Islamic World fuelled primarily by oil wealth," said Adnan Al Bahar, chairman of the International Investor, a Kuwaitbased Islamic bank.

Addressing an Islamic banking conference Sunday, Sheikh Bahar said Islamic banks now managed between \$60 and \$80 billion, an amount which he said was growing at about 15 per cent

per year.
His estimate is higher than that of the authoritative Association of Islamic Banks which put it \$30-\$40 billion.

"It is my belief that Islamic banking will be responsible for managing up to 50 per cent of savings in the Islamic World in the coming five to 10 years," he said.

A number of factors pointed to sustained growth of the industry. These included the trend of a transfer of wealth from the state of the private sector in oil producing countries, the growing size of middle-income groups in Muslim countries and in-

creasing demand for Islamic

banking products from in-stitutions, such as pension

fund managers.

Recognition of the importance of Islamic banking by the monetary authorities and increasing cooperation with western banks further supported the industry. Sheikh Bahar said.

Islamic banks offer instruments and financing procedures which do not conflict with Islamic shari'a (law). which forbids the charging or

earning of interest. Sheikh Bahar said Islamic banks' global presence was set to grow. "Islamic financial institutions are gaining market share and are not exposed to competition from global players in their home base because of their highly specialised market niche.

This was "in addition to their growing capability to deliver value to their international corporate clients by helping them tap a market that their existing bankers cannot help with.

Competition between a growing number of Islamic banks had intensified and was resulting in a wider range of products and a narrowing of

margins, Sheikh Bahar said. Controversy over whether Islamic banks should invest in equity of companies which dealt in interest meant that such investments were likely cluded.

to remain restricted. But the use of profit and loss sharing agreements was likely to see substantial growth, he said, particularly in project fiBusines

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Currency hedging techniques would also develop, allowing for the trading of commodities denominated in different currencies, he said.

The conference was told by another speaker that Islamic and Western banks should cooperate with each other to achieve greater efficiency and a more global and dynamic

Duncan Smith, head of Islamic investment banking at United Bank of Kuwait, said there was scepticism over the ability of the two types of banks to cooperate as principles of religion and trust differed.

"The religious aspects of Islamic banking should be looked after by the shari'a experts while the commercial implementation should be handled by the bankers," be

"Where it makes sense from a commercial point-ofview, Islamic banks may best fulfil their fiduciary responsibilities as fund managers and bankers by cooperating with non-Islamic banks." he con-

Low oil prices depress **Omani** economy

IUSCAT (AFP) - Low oil rices depressed Oman's ecoomy by more than four per nt in the first half of 1994 espite positive growth rates other sectors, official firres showed Sunday.

The Gross Domestic Prouct (GDP) declined by 4.1 er cent to 2.19 billion Omariyals (\$5.69 billion) in the rst half of this year from billion rivals (\$5.92 bilon) in the first half of 1993, ccording to the figures by ne state-run Omani Delopment Council.

The oil sector plunged by 6 per cent to 801.1 million yals (\$2.08 billion) from 56.5 million riyals (\$2.3 bilon) in the same period. While mining, construction nd government services ropped by 13.6, 1.5 and 5.1 er cent respectively, the war and electricity sector grew y 5.4 per cent and trade by .7 per cent, the figures

nowed.

Peanuts

New UAE import duty to double revenue, study says

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirate's (UAE) new uniform four per cent import tariff will double customs revenues and make local goods more competithe Gulf state's Emirates Industrial Bank (EIB) said in a study.

The UAE began enforcing a uniform four per cent tariff on most imports in August. Until then emirates of the seven-member UAE had set varying tariffs, some as low as

"Customs revenues are expected to rise substantially to reach about 1.7 billion dirhams (\$460 million) in 1995 compared to 900 million dirhams this year," said the study issued on Saturday by EIB, set up by the UAE to promote local industry.

The extra revenue would allow the customs authorities to improve their services, something difficult in the past because of the low level of customs charges, the EIB

"The rise in duties will help boost the competitiveness of national products in local markets as the prices of some imported goods subject to duty are likely to rise, such as chemicals, plastic and miner-al products," it said. The EIB criticised impor-

ters who it said had raised the domestic prices of some foodstuffs and building materials. even though they were not subject to the new unified tariff.

The UAE's markets had kept their image of being cheap and dynamic despite the tariff, it said, but warned: "Importers who keep on trying to make a quick and unfair profit at the expense of the consumer may damage the commercial sector as a

I WONDER HOW

The imposition by the UAE of a uniform import tariff is an essential first step towards unifying tariff rates with other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which can vary widely.

U.S. intelligence budget reportedly published by mistake

NEW YORK (AFP) - A congressional subcommittee has inadvertently made public a breakdown of the highly classified budget for U.S. intelligence services, estimated at \$28 biltion, the New York Times reported Saturday.

The newspaper said the figures included \$3.1 billion sought by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for the current year and \$13.2 billion sought by the Pentagon's in-

Another \$10.4 billion was reportedly requested by the army, navy, air force and marines, and their special op-erations units, for intelligence aimed at battlefield

The figures also include unspecified amounts for the intelligence agencies of the Federal Bureau of Investiga-tion, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the departments of energy, treasure and state, the Times said. The daily said the breakdown of the classified intelligence budgets was mistakenly published in documents released by the House of Representatives' subcommittee on defence appropria-

Some members of Congress have been pressing for public disclosure of the country's intelligence budget since the end of the Cold War five years ago. But in July, the House narrowly rejected a

The Times said the figures disclosed by error highlighted the magnitude of U.S. spending on intelligence, which experts said totalled approximately \$28 billion for the current fiscal year.

For example, the paper said, the CIA had sought a billion dollars more than the State Department's budget. The sum requested by the Pentagon's intelligence services was only slightly less than the budget for the Justice Department.

THE BETTER HALF

Israeli cabinet approves \$1.8b budget supplement

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli cabinet voted Sunday a \$1.8 billion budget supplement to cover in part the army's redeployment on the West Bank in line with the PLO peace accord, officials

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat requested the extra funds to the \$42.5 billion budget for 1994 to aid the defence industry, to pay for tlements and for the redeployment.

Israel and the Palestinians were expected to resume negotiations in Cairo later in the week on the redeployment outside built-up areas on the West Bank to allow elections to take place to an autonomy council.

The Palestinians want a quick puliback while Israel is insisting that a detailed accord be reached on the elections before working out the mechanics of the rede-

By Glasbergen

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Both your judgement and your hunches are operating accurately and you would be wise to concentrate upon details of finances and property that don't require taking any risks. chances or change.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get out in the world of business or lever practical activities you

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You have many new ideas just what you can do to extend your prosperity to new horizons so be openminded to whatever arises for it can be of benefit to you.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Seek out those business persons with whom you have some dealings to put through with and get into the practical aspects of them and make definite arrangements.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to very down to earth associates who can further your aims and let them know what they can do to aid your

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have an unusually productive day wherever your activities of a work nature are concerned so make sure that you do not lose a moment in constructive planning.

engage in and to make arrangements now so you have them for sometime to come.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have been considering some practical changes at your residence and this is certainly the day to start to put them into actual

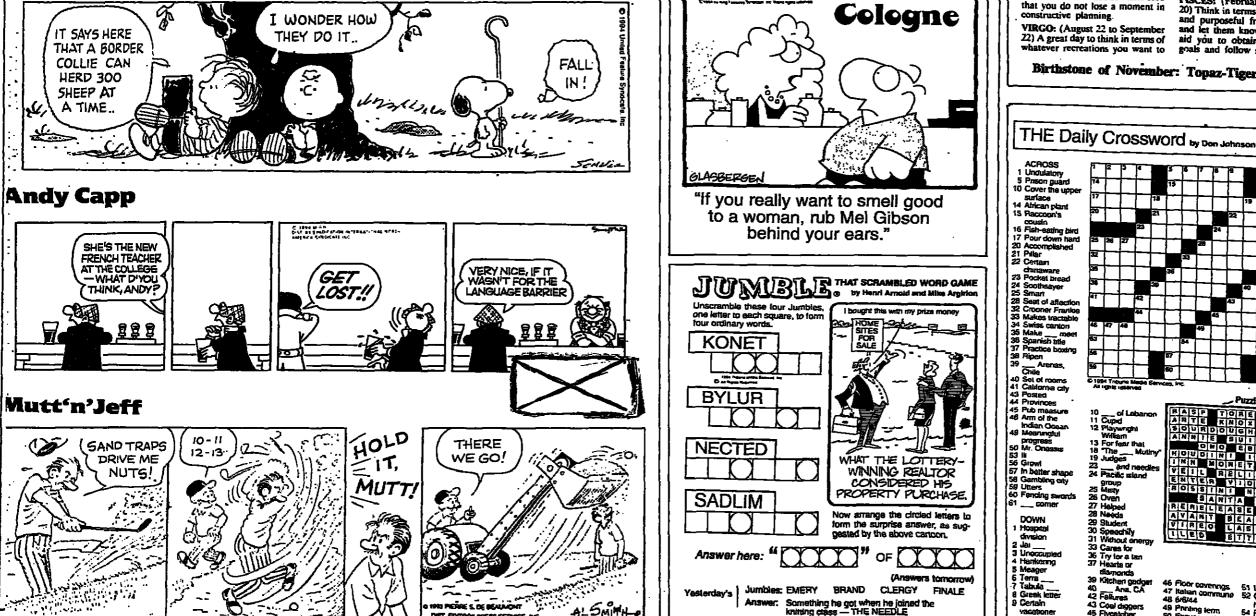
SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Think about the various persons with whom you have usual contact who can aid you to make riched and get their support. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Money matters and other practical interests should occupy the top of your list today for you have a good chance to increase your abundance.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You have a feeling of self-confidence and that you can extend your interests to include whatever you want to a personal

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You now would be wise to forget any daydreaming and get into the nitty gritty into whatever practical plans and arrangements vital to your progress.

PISCES: (February 20 to March: 20) Think in terms of the long time and purposeful friends you have and let them know how they can aid you to obtain your personal goals and follow suggestions.

Birthstone of November: Topaz-Tiger's Eye





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Financial Markets

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Foreign Exchange Market Summary (October 31 - November 4, 1994)

(October 31 - November 4, 1994)

AMMAN — The dollar rose slightly against other major currencies at the end of last week. It ended the week 0.17 per cent higher against the yen, 0.26 per cent higher against the mark and 0.49 per cent higher against sterling.

The U.S. unit retreated Monday, in view of a decline in U.S. treasuries prices. Treasuries suffered a set back after the release of a Chicago Purchasing Management Association report, reviving concern over building inflationary pressures in the U.S. The report showed a rise from 63.3 per cent to 64.3 per cent in its October Business Index, and a rise from 72.1 per cent to 72.5 per cent in the Prices Paid component of the Index. Furthermore, a report released by the U.S. Commerce Department showed a slight rise of 0.2 per cent in American's consumer spending during Septemper cent in American's consumer spending during Septem-

The dollar continued its decline against the mark and yen Tuesday, while rising slightly against sterling. It lost ground in view of a decline in U.S. stock and bond prices, which fell on renewed concern over rising inflationary pressures in the U.S. U.S. financial markets suffered another set back after the release of the National Association of Purchasing Management report showing a rise from 58.2 per cent to 59.7 per cent in its October index of national manufacturing activity. The dollar also retreated against the yen on news that the parties to the U.S.-Japan trade talks to reach an agreement on opening the Japanese glass sector at the end of October.

The U.S. unit appreciated sharply against other major currencies Wednesday, in view of aggressive Fed intervention in the market to support its currency. The Fed intervened after the dollar fell to 96.11 yen, a fresh post WWII low against the Japanese currency.

The dollar continued its rise against other major currencies

Thursday, influenced by a second day of Fed intervention. Many market participants expected the Fed to tighten its monetary policy at its next scheduled Federal Open Market Committee meeting on Tuesday 15/11/1994.

The U.S. unit retreated against the mark and ven Friday while rising slightly against sterling. Its decline came on the back of yet another decline in U.S. bond prices, which fell after the release of the U.S. employment report showing a rise of 194 thousand in non-farm payrolls during October. The

strong growth in payrolls, in addition to a rise in hourly wages to its highest level in 11 years, renewed inflationary concerns. Failed expectations of a third day of Fed intervention also contributed to the dollar's decline.

The U.S. unit, thus ended the week at 1.5140 marks, 97.45 yen and at \$1.6160 to the pound sterling.

New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	28.10/94	4/11/94	Percent
	Close	Close	Change
Sterling Pound	1.5240	1.6160	[0.49]8
Deutsche Mark	1.5100	1.5140	(0.2618
Swiss Franc	1.2595	1.2673	{0.62}3
French Franc	5.1665	5.1975	{0.48]\$
Japanese Yen	97.28	97.45	[0.17]9

	Date: 6:11/1994		
Currency	, Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0.6920	0.6940	
Sterling Pound	1.1176	1.1252	
Deutsche Mark	0.4564	0.4587	
Swiss Franc	0.5458	0.5485	
French Franc	0.1352	0_1339	
Japanese Ven*	8.7098	0.7133	
Dutch Guilder	0.4074	0.4094	
Swedish Krona	*****	423423	
Italian Lira*	0.0445	0.0447	
Belgian Franc	24424	******	

2.400 2.350 2.290 2.790 2.290 2.790 3.100 3.120 2.670 2.680 9.200 9.200 6.300 6.300 6.300 6.300 2.650 2.652 2.650 2.652 2.650 2.500 0.980 0.980 1.310 1.542 4.650 4.650 6.300 6.300 5.350 5.350 2.500 2.550 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 2.500 MATIONAL POSITIOLIO SECURITIES UNTIED HUDOLS EAST & COMMODORE SUTELS ARAB INTER, FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION THE JURGAN COMENT FACTORIES JURGAN PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE STREET OF THE ST MAN FINANCIAL MARKET HOUSEING BANK CENTER ANGELS - SECTIONS: TELEPHONE: 660170 / 661170 MANUET SHARK PRICE LIST FOR SUMMAY 06 PREV. OPENING CLOSING CLOSING PRICE PRICE PRICE SPINHING & MENVING DAR AL DAMA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT NAME DEVESTMENT & INFERNATIONAL TWACE AREA PAPER CONVENTION & TRADISC NATIONAL STREE TROUGHT INTERNEDITATE PRINCHEDICAL INCUSTICE JORGAN ROCKHOOL INCUSTRIES ONTHERSAL CHRICAL JACOSTRIES | 182,250 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182,000 | 182, AN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JIMCS ONAL CASES & WIRE MARDIACTO

CBJ offers JD 15m of certificates of deposit

AMMAN (R) - Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) said Sunday it had offered banks 15 million dinars (\$21.67 million) in certificates of deposit (CDs) in this week's

CD interest rates rose marginally this week, reaching a high of 7.68 per cent for three-month paper against 7.60 per cent the previous week.

No six-month certificates were sold in the last offer. Closing day for bids is Wednesday, banks are told the results Thursday and CDs are officially issued Saturday. Minimum purchases are 100,000 dinars (\$144,508).

The central bank's 30 million dinars (\$43.35 million) in

CDs offered last week were all sold.

The discount rate remained fixed at 8.5 per cent. Outstanding dinar CDs are 249.2 million dinars (\$360.1

S. Korean construction companies' overseas orders rise 84%

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korean construction companies saw an 84.33 per cent jump in the value of their overseas orders during the first nine months to September thanks to the global economic recovery, the Overseas Construction Association of Korea (OCAK) has said.

A total of 90 offshore projects valued at \$4.51 billion were picked up by South Korean builders by the end of September, compared with \$2.45 billion in orders landed

for the same period last year. China remained as the preferred overseas market, yielding \$599 million worth of orders during the nine-month period, followed by Laos which placed orders worth \$500 million, the OCAK said.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait ranked third and fourth with \$454 million and \$417 million each, said the OCAK report, which showed that South Korea's overseas projects were heavily concentrated in Asia and the Middle East.

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the companies would easily overshoot the government target of \$6 billion for the whole year by at least \$1 billion in new orders.

Meanwhile, applications by South Korean companies seeking to make direct offshore investments in the first nine months of 1994 almost doubled over a year ago, with stakes mostly in China and other Asian nations, the Ministry of Finance

The value of direct overseas investment applications by Korean firms increased by 99.9 per cent during the January-September period to \$2.37 billion for 1,369 projects from the same period a year ago.

Actual investments in the period numbered 959 worth \$1.34 billion, up 86 per cent in value, the ministry said.

Officials attributed the buoyancy to eased overseas investment procedures introduced in February and to a rush by domestic firms into the promising Chinese mar-

South Korean investments in China rose sharply to 739 projects valued at \$556 million for the first nine months, from 414 projects worth \$412 million set during the corres-

Investors see Israeli \$1 billion gambling chance

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel could become a major gamb-ling centre for the Middle East, generating up to \$1 bil-lion a year with ancillary services, foreign experts said at an international business conference Sunday.

"There is an absence of gambling casinos in this part of the world," said William Eadington, director of the University of Nevada's Insti-tute for the Study of Gamb-

ling.
Gambling, along with the hotels and services that accompany casinos, could generate \$1 billion a year in gross revenue in Israel, he estimated.

"It would be a major export in terms of bringing in foreign currency," Mr. Eadington said.

Israel's perceived stability has attracted the attention of such gaming industry developers as U.S. tycoon Donald Trump and Sol Kerzner, chairman of South Africa's Sun International, said Robert Heller, a director of Salomon Brothers, a large investment and banking firm.

"Although any decision is still several years off, this conference may be the catalyst for sparking debate on this subject," Mr. Heller

The Israeli government has already begun discussion on whether to allow gambling in the Jewish state.

"We will have to make a decision about it. A majority of the government is in favour of allowing gambling but we have a problem with some of the religious members," Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish told Reuters.

If Israel opposed gambling, it would lose tourism income to places like Aqaba, a Jordanian Red Sea port next to Israel's Eilat resort. "They will open up casinos in

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out that," Mr. Harish predicted_

Mr. Heller said that Eilat. already a big tourism centre, would be an ideal location for

Sunday's conference was the third such meeting to be held in occupied Jerusalem but was the first attended by businessmen from Jordan, Kuwait, Tunisia and Moroeco, according to Mandy Barak of the Israel Federation of Chambers of Com-

"Now we are making proof of the success of the peace process. The feeling is the:

Middle East will be open for business," Mr. Harish said. The conference also. attracted many Africans, from Nigerian businessmen

to ministers from Gabon and Cameroon. In the conference hall, Palestinians from Bethlehem,

Hebron and Nablus in the occupied West Bank display-, ed their wares - shoes, clothing and sweets — alongside hi-tech Israeli telecom-: munications and computer. companies. 'We believe there will be-

peace and we will do business." said Loay Abdoh Al Agber, a Nablus manufacturer of bags who was looking. for opportunities to import clothing from abroad. Others were less certain,

Abdul Azeem Sharawi, a Jordanian, owns factories in Jordan and in Ramallah in the West Bank. With peace. between Israel and Jordan sealed, he has been given a one-year permit to live in-Ramallah and run his family's factory there.

"Peace in the region will take time. That is what I believe," he said.

Mobil sees tough competition for oil investment

CAPE TOWN (R) - The oil industry has undergone a maor shakeout over the pas decade and governments will have to compete to secure investment for hydrocarbon development, a top American oil executive has said.

"There is not enough. money to go around and things are changing fast," John Cousins, the Mobil Corporation's vice president for new business, said.

Addressing a conference on African oil organised by Euromoney, a leading European financial magazine through its conference arm AIC, he predicted a significant increase in energy demand in the next 15 years.

But he added: "As we look towards the 21st century, governments wishing to promote economic development through investments in their hydrocarbon sectors are, and will increasingly be, in competition with one another for the limited capital available.

Over the next five years, the Russian hydrocarbon industry alone would need new investment worth about \$50 billion if further production declines were to be stemmed. he said.

Government policies, fiscal regimes, economic returns and business risk would significantly influence the spread of investment aimed at developing oil and gas poten-

"In a world where too many projects are chasing too few dollars, those countries which do not offer competitively attractive terms will not secure the investments they

He said features of the industry now were low oil. prices and maturing production in many of the traditional oil and gas regions. He said the industry had to be pre-pared to do business on at

low price and on low margin It had been forced to rationalise, promoting pro-ductivity and technology to meet business goals.

The global arena was; changing, offering access to new sources of oil and gas, to growing energy markets, to unfamiliar and evolving economic and political systems and to new types of business relationships.

By company, Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co. topped the January-September list by bagging \$1.13 billion in contracts, : 145186 : 22 22859 while Jinro Construction Co. won \$560 million in orders. OCAK officials predicted ponding period last year.

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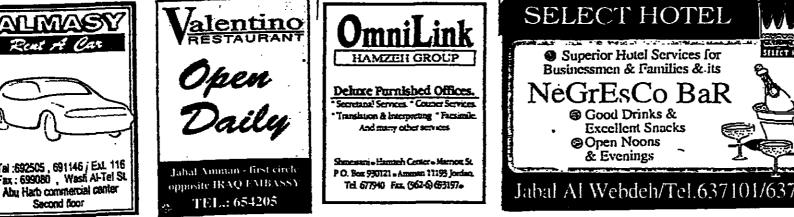
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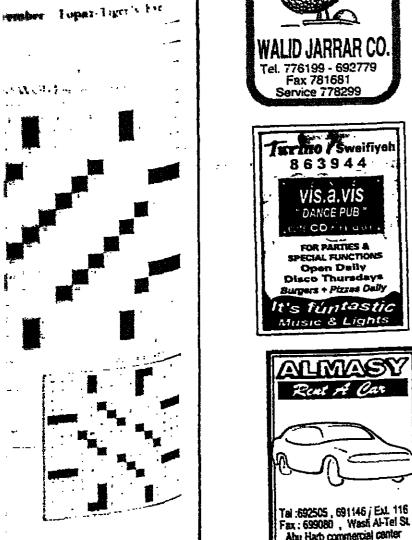


















line walk there a couple of

Graham, ranked 90th in

the world, fell apart in the

second set, suffering nine

double faults, four of them in

one game. She had six double

those big points when it gets

close," Graham said. "I'm sure she gets nervous too but

she just sticks with what she

has been doing over the

Schultz, Maleeva reach

final

In Quebec City, Canada second-seeded Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands

and fifth seed Katerina

Maleeva of Bulgaria both advanced to the final of the \$150,000 Bell Challenge

tournament by prevailing in three-set matches Saturday.

seeded champion Nathalie

Tauziat of France 6-4 6-7

(6-8) 6-4, while Maleeva

overcame third-seeded

American Chanda Rubin 4-6

The Dutchwoman was in

6-4 6-3.

Schultz defeated fourth-

"She knows how to play

faults in the final set.

Foreman becomes oldest heavyweight champion Navratilova, Sanchez Vicario in final

blasting two-punch combina-tion, George Foreman erased the memory that has haunted him for 20 years.

"I exorcised the ghost of (Muhammad Ali) once and forever," the 45-year-old Foreman said after knocking out Michael Moorer to win the IBF and WBA heavyweight championships

Saturday night. For nine rounds, Foreman looked like a battered old fighter whose hopes of regaining at least part of the championship he lost when he was knocked out by Ali on Oct. 30, 1974, could not be

Foreman's face was lopsided from Moorer's right jabs and right hooks. His left eye was closing. He was huf-fing and puffing.

Then, with shocking sud-

denness in the 10th round, Föreman knocked Moorer out.
: "He should never have

stood in front of me," the 250-pound (113-kilogramme) Foreman said. But for a brief moment in the 10th, that's just what the 26-year-old Moorer did.

Slam, came Foreman's left book. Crash, came his right hand.
And Moorer landed flat on his back with his arms . outstretched. He barely moved a - inuscle as referee Joe Cortez

counted Forreman into boxing history.

When Cortez completed the 10-count, Foreman, the boxer-turned-preacher-- turned-actor-turned-. . . champion, knelt in prayer in

a neutral corner. "It's like the song: 'When you wish upon a star and your dreams come true," Foreman said. "Well, look at me

tonight."
"He didn't see the punch coming," said Moorer's trainer, Teddy Atlas. "That was the best punch George threw all night. That was what we were afraid of."

"I got lackadaisical," said Moorer, who became an exchampion one week before his birthday. "I just got

SUZUKA (AFP) — British

driver Damon Hill held off a

last ditch charge by Michael Schumacher to win the Japanese Grand Prix Sunday

as both drivers joined others

"We shouldn't be driving

in torrential rain," said Hill

of the race, which was cut

into two sections by a down-

pour which wrought havoc

down," said Schumacher. "I

was swimming in it."

"The rain was pouring

The victory for Hill moved

him within one point of Schu-

macher in the drivers' cham-

pionship. Britain's Martin Brundle

spun off in the wet and hit a

steward who was helping to move Gianni Morbedelli's

Footwork car. The steward

was taken to hospital with a

broken leg and Brundle was

later given a reprimand by

. The driver said he had no

control over his acquaplaning

"Unfortunately, when you touch water the way I did,

there's nothing you can do,"

he said. "You are just a

ances and degenerating

weather conditions." But it

added, "a driver must be

extremely cautious when yel-

Gerhard Berger, the Fer-

rari veteran who also acts as a

spokesman on safety, said the

drivers would discuss the

safety issue before next

week's season-closing Australian Grand Prix at Ade-

"The safety car should

have stayed on the circuit for

longer," he said. Hill, at the wheel of the

Williams Renault, won by

3.365sec. His victory means

the 34-year-old now has 91

points to Schumacher's 92.

and their battle for the title will come down to next

Frenchman Jean Alesi

finished third in a Ferrari.

48:680 seconds back, while half of the 26-car field failed to finish, mostly due to the

Former world champion

Nigel Mansell, still looking

for a Formula One comeback

win after two years with the

U.S. IndyCar tour, was

fourth in the number-two

Williams after a long-running

Hill said: "That's not so

satisfying to race like that but

it really does mean a lot to

end up first. I keep telling

week's final race.

slippery conditions.

Battle with Alesi.

low flags are shown."

In a communique, the steward blamed the accident mainly on "difficult circumst-

course officials.

with the cars.



George Foreman (right) throws a hard left into the face of Foreman took the title from Moorer with a tenth round Michael Moorer in the third round of their scheduled 12 knockout (AFP photo) round heavyweight title bout in Las Vegas, Nevada.

caught. That's part of boxing. I'm going to have to live with

Foreman became the oldest fighter to win a cham-pionship in any weight class at 2:03 of the 10th round. The previous oldest heavyweight champion had been Jersey Joe Wolcott, a mere 37 when he knocked out Ezzard Charles in 1951.

When Moorer crashed to the canvas, a crowd of 12,127 came to its feet as one. It didn't take anyone with two eyes long to realise that Moorer was not going to get

up in time. Jubilation broke out as the fans screamed themselves silly. Foreman's younger

brother, Roy, passed out in the ring and was removed on a stretcher. He later made an appearance at the post-fight press conference and

Hill upsets Schumacher in Japanese GP

myself to be realistic. It is a

tall order to beat Michael as

this year he has been the class

an extra pit-stop for fresh

helped his Benetton Ford go

It worked at the European

"I was feeling confident all

Grand Prix at Jerez, Spain

through the weekend, and

under normal circumstances

the strategy we planned could have worked," said the 25-

year-old, chasing Germany's

"Nevertheless, I am one point ahead and looking for-

ward to Adelaide now."
Hill clocked 1hr 55min for

first world driver's title.

Schumacher had thought

of the field."

faster than Hill.

last month.

"It's doubtful that in his legendary career, Foreman has hit anyone any harder than he hit the 222-pound (100-kilogramme) Moorer,

Moorer landed 369 of 641 punches through nine rounds and connected on 259 of 450 jabs. Foreman landed 229 of 496 total punches and 115 of

who went down like a rag

After the ninth round, judges Jerry Roth and Chuck Giampa each favoured Moorer 88-83, while Duane Ford favoured Morrer, but only by

The AP card had it 89-82 for Moorer. Foreman needed a knockout to win.

Many people had ques-tioned Foreman's right to a heavyweight championship shot since he had not fought in 17 months and had lost

km per hour (94.342 miles

per hour) on the twisty 5.86-

kilometre (3.64-mile) tack.

the 16-round season against

Schumacher's eight. Austrian

from pole position, and the

race was suspended by rain

on the 15th lap with Schu-

macher leading Hill by

in front in the second section

and regained a lead on aggregate time after 35 laps

although Hill was running in

front after the two drivers

make an extra stop for refuelling and a tyre change

But Schumacher had to

The German again jumped

Gerhard Berger

6.863sec.

made pit-stops.

after 40 laps.

It was his sixth victory of

Schumacher took the lead

that fight on points to Tom-* my Morrison. Foreman shrugged off the criticism like so many jabs.

"One of these days — it may be Nov. 6 — people will be saying 'he got the title shot because he deserved it," Foreman said before the

They were saying it Saturday night. In fact, they were shouling it — George Foreman is champion again.

No longer when Foreman's carer is discussed through the years will his loss to Ali be mentioned. What will be remembered will be the fact that age 45, he became the heavyweight champion again, winning the way true champions do. With an eye closing and his back to the ropes. Foreman summoned all the strength left in his weary body and knocked out his tormentor.

Foreman was seemingly invinsible going into the fight against Ali on Oct. 30, 1974. He never got a rematch, and after he lost to Jimmy Young in 1977, he retired to

become a preacher.

He launched a comeback in 1987 to, he said, earn some money for his Houston Youth Centre. He fought his way to a title shot against Evander Holyfield and was outpointed April 19, 1991. Foreman, who earned ab-

out \$1 million, improved his record to 73-4 with 68 knock-Nets. outs. Since beginning his comeback in 1987, his record is 28-2 with 26 knockouts.

Moorer, of Detroit, earned \$7.5 million. He is 35-1 with 30 knockouts. This was his first defence of the title he won from Holyfield on April 22.

> "I knew that New Jersey played a tough ball game last night in Houston. We wanted to push the ball against them. Towards the end of the game,

Dallas rookie Jason Kidd, the second overall pick out of California, just missed a triple double with 10 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds in

In Chicago, Rex Chapman scored 26 points, including seven in overtime, as the Washington Bullets scored a

control from the service line against Tauziat, losing just 11

points in her first 11 service games and reached match point at 6-5 in the second-set tiebreak before Tauziat fought back to force a third

Tauziat held three break

points in a marathon third came of the final set before Schultz won on the sixth

deuce. A service break in the 10th game achieved through a sizzling backhand winner and a

forehand volley putaway clin-ched the match for Schultz. "It was very hard in the third set to get over losing the (second-set) tiebreak. but you have to be strong and get over those points if you want to be a top-20 player," said Shultz, who is now ranked

Much as she had in defeating top-seeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa on Friday, the 25-year-old Maleeva needed all guile and experience to triumph in the two hour and three minute match with the hardhitting. 18-year-old Rubin.

Maleeva won the final four games and took 15 of the last 18 points when Rubin suddenly became error prone.

"Tve lost a lot of close three-set matches this year and I'm happy now that I've won two in a row because it shows I know how to fight." said Maleeva, whose rankings has slipped from 22 to 41 over the past 12 months.

"At 3-2 in the last set," said Rubin, "I had a two chances for 4-2 and I rushed a couple of points. Then I rushed a couple of points in the game after that."

Mavericks start on positive note

DALLAS (R) — The youthful Dallas Mavericks, the NBA's worst team last year, started the new season with a win as Jim Jackson poured in 37 points and Jamal Mash-burn added 30 in a 112-103 triumph over the New Jersey

OAKLAND (Agencies) Martina Navratilova, playing in the next-to-last tourna-

ment of her 21-year career,

overcame 15 aces by Debbie

Graham to reach the finals of

a \$400,000 WTA event Satur-

day. Second seed Navratilova

rallied to defeat Graham 3-6.

6-2, 7-5, to reach Sunday's final against world number

two Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario

of Spain, who ousted U.S.

rival Lindsay Davenport 6-2.

4-6, 6-3 in the other semi-

Navratilova, who has lost

the first set in each of her

three matches here, seeks to

extend her record total of 167

singles crowns.
"I just hope I don't give

away that first set again," Navratilova said. "It's hard

to keep digging out of that hole. I can't do that tomor-

Navratilova, 38, has won at

least two singles titles a year since 1975, but her only triumph this year was in Paris last February.

Graham, who has never won a WTA crown in three

tour seasons, served nine.

aces in the first set, five of

them in the fourth game and

three in a row during the

der second serve," Navratilo-

va said. "It was like men's

tennis. I was doing to base-

"I have never seen a har-

sixth game.

It was the first opening game win in seven years for the Mavs, who were a leagueworst 13-69 last season.

"We knew we were going to hustle," said Dick Motta, who has returned to coach the Mavericks after a sevenyear absence that followed a seven-year stint as the team's first coach.

they (Nets) were tired.'

Kenny Anderson had 30 points and Derrick Goleman had 18 for the Nets, who fell

his pro debut.

100-99 victory to snap a.15game losing streak to the

Chapman hit a threepointer with 1:22 left in the extra session to give the Bullets, who have opened the season with two close wins, a 100-96 advantage.
The Bulls had a chance to

win in the final seconds when Scottie Pippen drove the length of the floor, but his scoop shot hit the bottom of

In Denver, Ricky Pierce scored 25 points, including a tie-breaking jumper with 30 seconds left, lifting the visiting Golden State Warriors to a 108-104 victory over the

Pistons past the Hawks 114-

Rookie Grant Hill added 24 points for Detroit, and Mills. whose two free throws sent the game into overtime. Ken Norman scored 30

points and Kevin Willis had points and 19 rebounds for Atlanta. In Charlotte, Mark Price

scored 27 points and handed out 11 assists as the Cleveland Cavaliers used two key runs on the way to a season-opening 115-107 victory for the T-Wolves, whose high socret was Isaiah Rider with In Milwaukee, Marty Con-

NBA roundup

Tim Hardaway scored 28 points and Latrell Sprewell added 24 for the Warriors. with two road wins despite the absence of holdout star forward Chris Webber. Rodney Rogers scored 22

points for the Nuggets. In Atlanta, Joe Dumars scored seven of his 18 points in overtime and Terry Mills hit a go-ahead jumper with 38 seconds left to lift the Detroit the last minute, including two with 12 seconds to go, to give Bucks a 97-96 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers. The Bucks trailed 80-73 at the end of three quarters but rallied to back to tie it 94-94

lon hit three free throws in

with 1:43 left. Los Angeles had a final chance to win but Sedale Threatt's 18-foot fadeaway jumper from the left wing rattled in and out.

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Borzov slams 'insufficient' dope testing

LISBON (AFP) — Valery Borzov, the Soviet Union's double sprint champion at the 1972 Olympics, slammed testing Saturday.

Borzov, the 100m and 200m gold medallist in Munich, and an International Olympic Committee member since last year, made his attack during a meeting of the Association of European National Olympic Commit-

Current dope testing programmes are "absolutely in-sufficient," he said. "We have to test every athlete at a

competition and not just the winners." Borzov, 45, is here as head

of the NOC of the Ukraine,

"My generation of runners did not need doping," he said. "I really think that you can win a 100m in 10sec and a 200m in 20 seconds without cheating. He blamed the money

which has entered top-class athletics for the growth in drugs use.
"Doping has been brought

in, and encouraged, by com-mercial sport," he said.

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Sports

Newcastle, Blackburn Concern charges to victory in Breeders' Classic forge ahead

LONDON (AFP) - Premiership leaders Newcastle bounced back from their midweek UEFA Cup upset against Athletico Bilbao to claim a 2-1 triumph over QPR as Blackburn consolidated their position two points behind them with a 2-0 victory over troubled Tottenham

Paul Kitson, with his first league goal, and Peter Beardsley, with a spectacular acrobatic effort, hit the target to put the Magpies in command before youngster Daniele Dichio reduced the deficit for Queens Park Ran-

Worth at least a point on the day, it was an unfortunate end to a turbulent week for

On Monday manager Gerry Francis will be discussing his future with the club after offering his resignation in

midweek. Francis said: "I'm very proud of the overall performance. In the second half we were the only team in it." Newcastle boss Kevin

Keegan admitted: "In the

second half Gerry got them a

better balance and they gave us a few problems. "I think they are an excellent side and they are in a false position down at the

bottom. Steve Perryman failed to discover the winning touch in

his first game as caretaker manager as Tottenham went down at Blackburn to a first half strike by Jason Wilcox and a second-half penalty by England striker Alan Shearer
his 12th goal of the season.

On the question of who will succeed Ossie Ardiles as the permanent manager Perryman said: "As far as I am concerned it does not matter if they sort it out sooner or later. As long as the club in the end make the right appointment.
"All I am doing is what

I've been asked to do. Whatever the circumstances it is a fantastic honour to manage this club - albeit if it is just for the one game."

Blackburn boss Kenny Dalglish had some sympathy for the North London club, saying: "Every team needs a little bit of luck — they are

not getting much of that." He added: "I am happy for ourselves and happy for the three points. We don't have many great problems here at the moment - everybody is working hard and we're getting our reward."

Nottingham Forest, who only lost their 24-game unbeaten run last weekend, slipped to their second successive defeat as Robbie Fowler secured Liverpool's 1-0 victory with his 14th goal of the season, claiming the goal after deflecting a Jamie Redknapp shot.

GOREN BRIDGE

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A CROCODILE IN FLORIDA

North-South vulnerable. East NORTH ∳ K 10 5 9 7 6 5 ♣ K 10 9 3 WEST **+** J 9 8 6 SOUTH Q + A Q 3 A 10 2

South West North
2 Pass 3
5 Pass Pass Opening lead. Four of ... Crocodiles open their months wide to awallow their prey. The same basic idea has passed into bridge jargon as the "Crocodile Although this deal is from a

Coup." Although this deal is from a rubber bridge game in Florida, alli-

MING-SHING

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next to show a hand with good sup port for the majors, but no more than three cards in either suit. Once North raised clubs, South decided

game would have a good chance, although a three-diamond cue-bid might have led to a laydown threeno-trump contract as the cards lay. West led a diamond to partner's ten and declarer ruffed the continu-ation. It looked as if there were two

heart losers, but declarer gave the hand the old college try. Trumps were drawn in two rounds, a diamond was ruffed and three rounds of spades were cashed for a heart discard from dummy.

With the key suits eliminated, declarer cashed the ace of hearts and exited with a heart. West followed

with the sack, East with the queen, but was trapped in an endplay. The forced plain soit return allowed de-clarer to discard a heart from hand while ruffing on the board - making The defense is easy for students of the crocodile. Given East's un-

conscionable failure to unblock the queen of hearts under the ace West Note South's overcall of two clubs, the correct way to treat this hand. If the opponents then compete in diamonds, South can double - trick.

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LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (R) — Concern, a 3-year-old who had not won a race since April, came from the back of the pack Saturday to win the \$3 million Breeders' Cup Classic at Churchill Downs, edging favourite Tabasco

Concern, ridden by Jerry Bailey at 7-1 odds, capped a day that saw three favourites and four longshots hit the winner's circle in the hotly contested seven-race, \$10 million series.

European horses continued to dominate the grass races with Barathea, a 10-1 longshot who has been running in England and France, taking the \$1 million mile and Tikkanen, who has campaigned all over Europe, winning the \$2 million turf.

Both horses set track records on the firm, dry turf. The Irish-bred, 4-year-old Barathea provided another

jewel in the increasingly crowded crown of co-owner Sheikh Mohammad of Dubai, whose horse Carnegie won the Arc de Triomphe in Paris last month and has also won three other Breeders' Cup titles.

Barathea's victory denied the American champion Lure an unprecedented third successive mile victory. Lure, who went off at 4-5, bid for the lead at the top of the stretch but faded as Barathea pulled away.

Barathea was ridden by top European jockey Frankie Dettori and trained by Luca Cumani. The horse finished fifth in last year's Breeders'

Cup mile and had been training on a specially designed track in Newmarket, England, that duplicated condi-

tions at Churchill Downs. Tikkanen, ridden by Mike Smith and trained by Jonathan Pease, has raced in Italy. Germany, Ireland and France this year, but posted only two victories prior to Saturday's hard-charging triumph.

"He does stay very well," Pease said, "he needs a good fast pace and that's probably why he's done so well in his two trips to America."

Another European. Hatoff, swept into second in the turf, while Paradise Creek, the 4-5 favourite, was third. Paradise Creek had the lead at the top of the stretch in the race but could not hold

off the hard-charging Euro-

Ther 11th running of the

"It's particularly great be-cause he's a horse that tries

"On the middle of the backside I thought he had a pretty good chance because I was only about 10 or 12 lengths back, which is okay

move from the middle of the lem. The English sprinter, the 6-1 third choice faded badly to finish last.

Flanders, ridden by Pat Day as the heaviest favourite of the day at 2-5, won the \$1 million juvenile fillies, but suffered two fractures in her right front leg that will require surgery. A track veterinarian said the horse might run again.

Flanders was ridden by Pat Day and trained by D. Wayne Lukas, the all-time

world's richest series of races took place under cloudy skies on a warm, dry day before a record Breeders' Cup crowd. of 71,671. The races were telecast to 16 countries around the world.

Concern, a Maryland-bred horse, had run second or third in seven races since he won the Grade 1 Arkansas Derby in April. But on Saturday he made his usual run from far back a good one to catch Tabasco Cat and win America's richest race.

hard all the time. All he needs is a decent pace and a good trip traffic-wise," said jockey Jerry Bailey.

The day's opening race, the \$1 million sprint, was won by Cherokee Run, the 5-2 favourite, who made a strong track to outrun Soviet Prob-Lochsong, who went off as

Jockey Lanfranco Dettori celebrates his win atop Kish borse Barathea during the Breeders' Cup Mile at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky (AFP photo) leading cup trainer who Dreamer, ridden by: Gary broke on 0-for-20 streak for Stevens, won the \$1 million Stevens, won the \$1 million his first cup win since 1989. distaff with a wire-to-wire run Another Lukas-trained that was too much for Hollyhorse, Timber Country, won wood Wildcat, last 3 ar's the \$1 million juvenile, giving winner, and Sky Beauty who the California-based trainer a had not lost a race this year.

sweep of the 2-year-old races and his 11th and 12th cup title The 45-1 longshot One course.

In the mile, Baratirea's jockey said the horse got a perfect trip around the ندد

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Agassi ready to cut Rosset down to size

PARIS (AFP) - United States Open champion Andre Agassi has two reasons for cutting Swiss giant Marc Rosset down to size in the final at the lucrative \$2.25 million Paris Indoor Open.

finish line aboard Concern ahead of Tabasco

Cat ridden by Pat Day (right) to win the

He is determined to avenge two consecutive defeats he has suffered against the bigserving 2.01 metre Swiss player - and he will have the extra incentive of knowing that he will move up to number two in the rankings for the first time if he takes the

In Saturday's semi-finals. Agassi survived some last minute nerves to put out Spain's fourth seed Sergi Bruguera

And Rosset came back from 0-5 down in the first set to beat seventh seed Michael Chang 6-7 (4-7) 6-3, 6-4.

The 14-year-old Agassi. already assured of his place in next month's ATP World Championship finals in Frankfurt, admitted it was hard lifting his game after his superb straight-sets win over world number-one Pete Sam-

Jockey Jerry Bailey (left) drives across the Breeders' Cup Classic at Churchill Downs in

pras 24 hours earlier. "Sergi is a very different type of player. He stays back and runs down a lot of balls." said Agassi, who had to save four break points in the final game after squandering a 6-4. 3-2 lead.

"He's won two French Open titles and obviously it would probably have been tougher for me if we had played today on clay.

for me. I started it with my wrist in a cast and I'm very proud of what I've accomplished so far."

Rosser, who will be 24 on Monday and who seems to score a major tennis triumph whenever he crosses the border to visit France, will be hoping that his huge serve and forehand will be enough to upset the American.

Louisville, Kentucky (AFP photo)

They certainly came to his rescue against Chang who zipped away to a 5-0 lead after just 20 minutes.

Rosset, who won the ATP events in both Marseille and Lyon earlier this season and who put Boris Becker out of the tournament in the

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quarter-finals, woke up at 15-40 and 0-5 down by slamming a service winner and three consecutive aces. He finished up with a tally of 18. Chang, who has always had

a strong following in the French capital since becoming the youngest-ever winner of the French Open title at Roland Garros in 1989, could not have got off to a better

Compensating for his lack of power with superb anti-. cipation, touch and speed, he scorched clear and looked

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THIS SLIP AND KEEP AT HOME

certain to clinch a place in the

overail.

His stamina let him down however and he was clearly feeling the effects of his three-set victory over titleholder Goran Ivanisevic "It's a great feeling to be in

the final," said Rosset. "I'm really pleased by the way I was able to hang in there. At the start he seemed to be reading my strokes so well I began to wonder how I was going to get past him."

Chang, whose semi-final

sure of qualifying for the elite eight-player ATP World Championships in Frankfuri next month, said he will make a final decision or whether or not to play in hext week's Antwerp rourna ment later this weekend.

"It will depend on who among the top players vall be playing there and on calculat-ing whether I have enough points to make sure of my place in Frankfurt." he said adding: "Actually I'd prajer to give it a miss and rest if place has left him virtually that's possible."

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Iranian Scuds strike rebel camp in Iraq

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iran fired Scud missiles across its border with Iraq early on Sunday into a camp used by exile Mujahedeen-e-Khalq guerrillas. A Mujahedeen spokesman said two buildings were damaged but no one was hurt.

Iraq immediately protested to the United Nations and warned that it reserved the right to self-defence.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman quoted by the official Iraqi News Agency accused Tehran of having "carried out a new act of aggression against Iraqi territory, by firing three Scud missiles at a target more than 80 kilometres inside Iraq.

Baghdad "reserves the right to defend itself against this Iranian aggression with appropriate means and at the right time," he said.

A strongly-worded protest letter condemning the "Iranian aggression" was sent to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali by Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Al Sahaf, the spokesman

The Foreign Ministry also handed the Iranian charge d'affaires in Baghdad a similar protest note, INA re-

Iran said Sunday its border guards had raided a base near the Iraqi capital used by the Mujahedeen, killing a number of rebels.

The Iranian thrust came shortly after security forces thwarted a Mujahedeen cross-border raid to sabotage oil installations in the southwestern province of Ilam, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said.

But the Iraq-based group denied the report, and said instead that another of its camps, 120 kilometres from Baghdad, had been the target of an Iranian surface-tosurface missile attack late Saturday.

The Ashraf camp was struck by four missiles, in-cluding at least one Scud-B, which has a range of 300 kilometres, the Mujahedeen said. It said they were fired from the Iranian province of Kermanshah.

Reporters taken by the Mujahideen to Ashraf camp, 80 kilometres inside Iraq and 120 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, saw two craters and debris from a dining hall and prayer area.

"There were two craters, broken glass, fallen ceilings and shrapnel and small pieces of missile in the camp," Reuters Television correspondent Ahmad Bahaddou said.

Ashraf is the main military base of the Mujahedeen, who lost out to Muslim fundamentalists in Tehran street battles after the fall of the Shah, formed a small army under Baghdad's protection

and fought on Iraq's side in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. The main, tank-equipped Mujahedeen force has been inactive since, but Tehran has blamed the group for attacks on civilian targets in Iran and abroad which the Mujahedeen deny.

Tehran stayed neutral in the 1991 war over Kuwait but remains on frigid terms with Baghdad and plays host to Shute Muslim rebels who mount guerrilla raids in southern Iraq.

IRNA reported that Iranian border guards pursued Muiahedeen raiders into Iraq after a frontier shootout in which two infiltrators were killed and two border guards The agency said two teams of infiltrators armed with automatic weapons, seven men in all, were intercepted

near the Iranian border town of Musiyan in Ilam province on their way "to bomb oil The guards pursued the

fleeing survivors into Iraq and attacked Mujahedeen base in the "Abu Ghuraib region" near Baghdad early Sunday, IRNA said. It claimed a "number of terrorists were killed" and

heavy damage inflicted on the installation. Aba Ghuraib is west of the heavily defended Iraqi capital, which lies 240 kilometres west of Musiyan. The IRNA report gave no indication how the border guards were

able to travel so deep into

eastern Iraq and then get out

again without being detected by security forces. Sunday's reported missile attack followed a U.S. State Department report issued by the House Foreign Affairs Committee Oct. 31 that branded the Mujahedeen as a

Marxist-oriented, anti-American stooge of Iraq.
The report said the Mujahedeen has a record of 'Undemocratic behaviour," including assassinations, kidnappings, terrorism, armed revolution and suppression of

The Mujadedeen branded the report as "bias and absurb" and said it gave "a green light" to Tehran for Sunday's attack.

Several members of the U.S. Congress, where the Mujahedeen have some support for the their campaign to ime, criticised the report.

overthrow the Tehran reg-

carried out without consultation, even though Islamic

> seini, joined their protests and warned "anything could

because people will return to pray but because the Israelis still occupy Hebron and the soldiers.



HEATED DEBATE: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and Deputy Prime Minister Thougan Hindawi listen as deputies debate the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty before

Natshe, who was given a guided tour of the site by the

army on Sunday, said: "It is

an Islamic place of prayer which should not be shared

the ones to control it."

turn to pray there.

"The Muslims should be

But he said there would be

no demonstrations on Mon-

day and Muslims would re-

The site was to open for

two days, then shut again for a security review before

being opened again for good.

guards aided by closed circuit

television cameras now pro-

tects the fortress-like com-pound where Jews will use

the main entrance and Mus-

No more than 300 from

each faith will be allowed in

at any one time. Some

Hebron, where about 450

Jews have also settled under

the protection of nearly 1,000

NEWS IN BRIEF

lims a side gate.

A 200-strong unit of border

voting it in 55-23 on Sunday in the Lower House of Parliament (see page one) (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Israel opens Hebron's massacre mosque today

settlers continue to provoke OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Israel will reopen Hebron's Ibrahimi Mosque on Palestinians in the city," he told AFP. Monday to test new security He criticised the failure to keeping Muslims and Jews consult Palestinians. "All the apart, eight months after a changes made at the mosque settler murdered more than have been carried out un-30 Palestinians there, officials ilaterally by the Israelis." Hebron Mayor Mustafa

Despite Muslim protests the cabinet voted Sunday to allow the faithful to return to the complex where Baruch Goldstein opened fire in a crowded mosque on Feb. 25. Communications Minister

Shulamit Aloni abstained saying the separation created "equality" at the site which has been in Muslim hands for She feared that hardline

Jews would now seek to turn the whole fortress-like compound into a synagogue. Muslim clerics complained about building alterations

administrators manage the The West Bank leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Faisal Hus-

Anything is possible, not

intense offensive ALGIERS (AFP) — Algerian security forces have killed at least 12 armed extrem-

ists in an intensified offensive against the fundamentalist insurgency, heralding a new, more brutal phase in the 33-

month conflict. According to official tolls. the losses cover government operations in the five days to Sunday. They are the largest suffered by the fundamentalist camp since it launched its bloody insurgency against the secular military-backed au-thorities in February 1992.

The accelerated government offensive comes a week after a breakdown in peace talks between President Liamine Zeroual and the leaders of the outlawed Isla-

mic Salvation Front (FIS) spearheading the insurgency.

The series of raids also follow a fundamentalist bomb attack Tuesday that killed four children, sparking widespread outrage among a population largely injured to the bloodshed of guerrilla

warfare. Announcing last week the holding of presidential elections before the end of 1995, Mr. Zeroual pledged to lead the battle to "eradicate terrorism and violence" from the 140,000-strong armed forces in the firing line. With unofficial figures in-

dicating more than 500 fundamentalists killed over the last two months,; the new offensive has been marked by a brutal reluctance to take

On Friday, troops stormed a villa in the Eucalyptus dis-trict of Algiers, killing eight fundamentalist guerrillas, officials said. Starting Wednesday, a 13-

man fundamentalist commando was wiped out in a 36-hour siege of a building in central Algiers.

In the fundamentalist stronghold of Jijel, 250 kilometres east of the capital, security forces killed 20 guerrilias.

Security forces also killed another 33 armed Islamic militants in an operation in the Hachachta forest, western Algeria.

The forest lies about 30 kilometres from the city of Mostaganem, where a fundamentalist bomb Tuesday killed four boy scouts and wounded 18 others at a ceremony to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the start of Algeria's war for inde-Algeria, and paid tribute to pendence from France.

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Prince Andrew to visit Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) --Britain's Prince Andrew will pay the first official visit to Argentina by a member of the British royal family since the Falklands War of 1982, in which the Duke of York himself took part. The British embassy here confirmed Saturday that the official visit would take place Nov. 15-17. Argentina and Britain reestablished diplomatic relations in 1990. The prince is scheduled to meet with President Carlos Menem at the Olivos presidential residence on Nov. 15, the embassy said. He also will take part in the commercial launch of the British-made Range Rover here at a ceremony in the embassy garden. The Duke of York also is scheduled to visit an antibiotics plant outside the capital, to stop by the navy frigate Sarmiento and attend a Royal British Legion Algerian regime on reception. He was also to visit military bases in Bahia Blanca, about 700 kilometres (430 miles) south of Buenos Aires. After his official duties are completed, the prince is to stay on for a private visit. with Susan Barrantes, the mother of his estranged wife Sarah Ferguson, at her ranch some 300 kilometres (185 miles) west of the capital.

94-year-old con sentenced to 7 years in jail

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A 94-year-old career criminal has gotten his wish: He's heading back to prison. Wesley "Pop" Honeywood was sentenced to serve seven years. He pleaded guilty in October to pointing an unloaded gun at a man who warned him not to eat grapes growing in the man's yard. At the time of his arrest for armed assault and possession of a firearm by a felon. He was on probation for attempting sexual battery on a 7-year-old girl. After Mr. Hon-cywood does three years, the judge said, he should be released to serve four years under house arrest. To Honeywood, that beat the alternative - a nursing "If I go to jail, I may be out in a couple of years." Mr. Honeywood said last month. "If I go to a mursing home, I may be there the rest of my life." Lawyer Debra Wheaton said Friday that her client still felt that way. The Mr. Honeywood has been charged with 46 crimes, convicted of five felonies, placed on probation three times and

Eiffel Tower

PARIS (AFP) — The Eiffel Tower, the central Paris landmark and major tourist attraction, reopened after being closed for 32 hours by a strike by employees demanding extra staff. As the strike ended at 6:00 p.m. (1700 GMT), a banner wrapped around the bust of Eiffel Tower builder Gustave Eiffel, proclaiming "Gustave is with us," was taken down and 160 people who work in the monument took elevators up to their posts. Tourists immediately took to the reopened entrance windows to pay their way for the ride up the tower. The unions had contended that the staff emplayed at the tower could not cope with the 20,000 daily visitors. Strikers said they had won a pledge for the management to hire more workers.

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the Special Forces, dubbed the Green Berets.

Ciller visit to Orient House kindles new Jerusalem row

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Palestinian National Authority (PNA) said on Sunday a visit by Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller to its East Jerusalem headquarters bolstered the Palestinians' claim to the city as their capital.

Israel expressed anger at Saturday's barring by Palestinian security men of Ms. Ciller's Israeli bodyguards at the entrance to Orient House, where Palestinians often play host to foreign

dignitaries.
"A Palestinian security man cannot say this is my territory'," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio. "No one gave him any such territory. No one gave nin that kind of authority."

The authority quoted Faisil Al Husseini, the top Palesine Liberation Organisation PLO) official in Jerusalem, is saying: "This visit... proved the Palestinian posiion concerning East Jerualem as the future capital of he Palestinian state.

Right-wing Israeli politicians, commenting on Mr. Ciller's visit, demanded the government shut down Orient House.

Ciller left Israel on Saturday night after a three-day official visit.

Opposition Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement to the press that the Orient House, which was founded in 1992 as a combination foreign ministry and city hall, should be closed 'immediately."
"The PLO is actually con-

trolling an extraterritorial bubble in Jerusalem and continues to open more and more offices, damaging Israeli sovereignty in the city," said Mr. Netanyahu. This cannot be allowed to

happen."
U.S. President Bill Clinton avoided creating a similar problem during a visit to Israel last month when he cancelled tentative plans to visit holy sites in the Old City Newspapers quoted Prime

Minister Yitzhak Rabin as

saying the Turkish leader's visit was misguided but stressed that Israeli-Turkish relations would not be harmed.

"It was the first visit, and an unprecedented one. So we are much more forgiving," Mr. Peres said on army radio. "It is a very regrettable proters after Ms. Ciller met Mr. Husseini.

"It is a shame that Mrs. Ciller agreed to do so but it will not damage relations be-tween Israel and Turkey," he

A defiant Husseini said: "We took the initiative of inviting Mrs. Ciller. It was not the first time and will not be the last time we do this. "We spoke about the

peace process and the question of Jerusalem." Mr. Peres pointed out that the Palestinians do not enjoy diplomatic status at Orient House and cannot ban access

to the Israel police. But he added: "We understand that Turkey wants to have good relations both with Israel and the Palestinians.'

Hamas offers conditional end to its attacks against Israelis

HE Islamic Resistance fovement, Hamas, said Sunay it was ready to halt tacks on Israeli civilians if ie Israeli government stops lling Palestinians.

Ibrahim Ghosheh, Jordanused spokesman for Hamas, id that his group will not iter direct talks with Israel, it was prepared to negotiate rough a "third party." But he stressed that even if

amas does stop attacking raeli civilians it will "conwe its military operations ainst Israeli military inillations until the Israeli cupation of our land ends." Mr. Ghosheh's comments, fried by the Associated ess, came amid suggestions several members of Israeli ime Minister Yitzhak thin's cabinet that the gov-ment could enter a diarue with Hamas, which has ensified attacks against aelis in recent months.

Mr. Ghosheh said the

eddine Al Qassam bri-'les, Hamas' military wing, Il stop attacks against ach civilians if "the Israeli ny, settlers and undercovagents halt their killing of estinian civilians."

'The ball's now in Rabin's int," he said. Tamas opposes the stember 1993 autonomy ord signed between Israel . i the Palestine Liberation

vowed to wreck Palestinian Rabin. But we are ready to self-rule launched in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in May. The group claimed three attacks last month, killing 25 Israelis, including 22 in a

suicide bombing in Tel Aviv. On Saturday, Mr. Rabin said he was ready to enter a dialogue with Hamas if it renounced violence and recognised the Jewish state.

However, he said, it would be "a miracle" if Hamas changed its violent ways. Until that happened, he said, "we will fight them with all our might within the limits of

Conflicting signals have come from Hamas leaders on the group's strategy in the wake of the implementation of autonomy.

Several Hamas leaders in the West Bank and Gaza have hinted that the group might take part in elections for a Palestinian self-rule council as called for by the Israel-PLO accord.

But others, including Mr. Ghosheh, argue that Hamas would field candidates only if the elections were for a leg-islative body which will guide the Palestinian quest for independence and that the poll was held under United Nations supervision.

Responding to Mr. Rabin's latest comments. Mr. Ghosheh said: "Hamas will ganisation (PLO) and has never accept direct talks with

accept negotiations through third parties like the International Red Cross."

the negotiations, he said, will aim at an agreement to stop Hamas attacks on Israelis in return for Israel stopping what Hamas sees as a campaign to annihilate Palestinian activists.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on Sunday the only dialogue possible with Hamas was violence as long as the group "talked to us with rifles."

"Until now, Hamas has talked to us with rifles. What kind of dialogue can you have with rifles?" Mr. Peres said on Israel Radio.

"As long as that is the content, then the dialogue that will be conducted, to my great sorrow, will be a violent dialogue."

Despite the tough talk, some Israeli officials have said that if Hamas changed its policies Israel might enter negotiations.

Deputy Defence Minister Mordechai Gur said on Saturday he did not rule out negotiating with Hamas members if they were elected to the Palestinian self-rule

council. "Hamas and Islamic Jihad are currently the enemies of peace, and murderers of Israelis," Mr. Rabin said (Continued on page 3)

Thursday, a military spokeswoman told AFP on Sunday. "We hope the talks will resume this week, maybe Wednesday or Thursday, but it has not been finalised yet." said Captain Hannie Jeshurun. On Tuesday, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat are to meet at the Erez crossing between Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip. The autonomy negotiations have bogged down over the long-delayed elections to an autonomy council. Israel has refused to discuss the redeployment of troops outside built-up areas on the West Bank until the question of elections is settled. Under the declaration of principles for self-rule, the redeployment is scheduled to be completed by the eve of elections, which Palestinians have admitted will not be held before next

Israel expects self-rule talks to resume this week

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israel expects autonomy talks with

the Palestinians to resume in Cairo on Wednesday or

Saddam meets Nigerian oil minister

NICOSIA (AFP) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein held talks with Nigerian Oil Minister Alhaji Umaru Baba during the minister's visit to Baghdad, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported Sunday. Mr. Umaru Baba gave President Saddam a message from Nigerian President Sani Abacha on "bilateral relations and issues concerning both countries," said INA. It did not say when the meeting took place. Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Al Sahaf and Oil Minister Safaa Hadi Jawad also attended the meeting. The Nigerian oil minister visited the stands of the Iraqi oil Ministry and the Office of Military Industrialisation at the Baghdad fair, where he saw models showing the destruction of oil installations during the 1991 Gulf war and reconstruction projects. Mr. Umaru Baba has already visited several Gulf states in a bid to gain support for Nigeria's candidate for the post of secretary-general of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Mr. Jawad attends all meetings of the 12-nation oil cartel despite the international embargo on Iraq oil sales, imposed by the United Nations after Baghdad's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Thousands desert Iraqi army — opposition

NICOSIA (AP) - More than 67,000 Iraqi soldiers have deserted in recent months despite the Baghdad regime's efforts to stanch the exodus by ordering the ears cut off all captured deserters, an Iraqi opposition group claimed Sunday. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted sources close to the Tehran-based Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq as saying the desertion rate in the 400,000-strong military has sharply increased in recent weeks. There was no independent verification of the report. But in September, other Iraqi dissident sources estimated that 400 to 500 soldiers were deserting every month. The sources gave no details, but said most of the deserters were from infantry units.

Japan's crown prince arrives in S. Arabia

RIYADH (AP) - Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito and his wife Princess Masako arrived Sunday on the first leg of a Gulf tour that also will take them to Oman, Qatar and Bahrain. Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah and Defence Minister Prince Sultan led a long list of the kingdom's royalty to give the Japanese visitors a red carpet welcome.

The tour was twice postponed earlier because of tensions in the region. The trip is designed to foster commercial ties between Japan and Saudi Arabia and the other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Along with Bahrain, Qatar and Oman that the royal couple will visit, the GCC also includes Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates. Japanese Ambassador Minoru Tamba told reporters ahead of the tour that the royal couple would be travelling through the region until Nov. 15. In Saudi Arabia, the royal couple will meet with key members of the royal family. They also are slated to visit the Arabian Oil Company in Khafji, bordering Kuwait. Arabian Oil is a Saudi-Japanese joint

Hizbollah: Time right to crush SLA

Beirut (R) - Lebanon's pro-Iranian Hizbollah group has said it sees a good chance to try to and crush Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia. "We will make efforts to crush this army, its symbols and leaders," the group's secretary-general Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, told a group of guerrillas on Saturday. "There is an appropriate chance for that." The 3,500-strong SLA polices 15-kilometre wide "security zone" occupied by Israeli forces in South Lebanon. Hizbollah guerrillas, trained equipped and financed by Tehran, launch several attacks every week against the zone. In the past few months they targeted several top SLA officers, killing at least three. "The collapse of the army of agent (SLA commander General Antoine) Lahd will call on the Zionist enemy to increase its direct presence and this give us a bigger chance to cahaust the enemy," Sheikh Nasrallah said.

Date of Islamic summit advanced

JEDDAH (AP) - Next month's pan-Islamic summit conference in Morocco has been moved forward by a few days, the secretary-general of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) announced Sunday. Hamid Al Gabid, head of the Jeddah-based, 51-member OIC, said that instead of Dec. 16-18, the summit would meet Dec. 13-16. Other OIC sources said the date was changed because other important events fell in some Muslim states around the meeting schedule, including the annual summit conference of the Saudi-led group of countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council. The OIC foreign ministers, as the saudi-meet a found days before the conference of the Saudi-led group of countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council. will meet a few days before to prepare for the summit. Their meeting is now scheduled for Dec. 10-11, the sources

Rushdie wants havens for persecuted writers

STRASBOURG, France (R) - British author Salman Rushdie, who is under an Iranian death threat, called on cities around the world on Sunday to provide havens for persecuted writers. He said town councils should help the writers get residence permits and provide them with housing and a 10,000-franc (\$2,000) monthly allowance for a year. "The idea is not only to ensure the writers' freedom to write, but to allow them to eat out, go dancing or pick up girls," Mr. Rushdie told a meeting of the International Parliament of Writers in the eastern French town of Strasbourg. Mr. Rushdie, who has been in hiding since he was accused of blaspheming Islam in his book "Satanic verses" and ordered killed in 1989 by Iran's late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, is president of the group of about 300

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judge could have sent Mr. Honeywood home, sentenced him to as much as 60 years in prison as a habitual offender, added up to 12 more years on the sexual battery count, or sent him to a nursing home. Since 1946.

served eight prison sent-

reopens to public

Legless paratrooper

FORT BRAGG, North Carolina (AFP) — A para-trooper who lost both legs on a jump almost nine months ago has become the first to reenlist, and jumped from an aircraft again. Sergeant First Class Dana Bowman, 32, took his oath Friday in an aircraft of the Golden Knights parachute squad at the military base here that headquarters the elite army 82nd Airborne Division and